

LEND A HAND

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On another page of this number, we print some extracts from the report of the Arbitration Bureau of the state of Massachusetts. We could wish that our space permitted us to print some details illustrations of the careful regular work of this board. No work more important has been done than that by which, in less than two years, the board has "won its spurs," and has shown what may be done among reasonable men, even when the Commonwealth itself has been very timid in the grant of powers.

The statute under which this board is established gives it none of the powers which are given to an ordinary court of justice. It is obliged to hold a session of inquiry, at the demands of any person who considers himself aggrieved in the relationship of master or workman. When such an application is made, the board must hold a session in the town where the work is done. Our readers will instantly see what an episcopate is thus created, by which two at least, probably three, men, may be called to any part of Massachusetts at any part of the year, for a hearing, where a master or a workman considers himself aggrieved. After this hearing has been given, after the evidence has been taken on both sides, the Board of Arbitration must give an opinion. But the law gives it no power to enforce this opinion; no sheriff obeys its mandates; and no constable. The opinion has little more than the moral power which belongs to it.

Thus restricted in what is called "power" by the writers on civil government, the board has, none the less, worked the miracle, if men choose to call it so, of adjusting quarrel after quarrel by the mere moral forces of good temper, sympathy and common sense. It has saved the Commonwealth of Massachusetts millions upon millions of dollars since its establishment, and, better than this, it has done much to create a better feeling between workmen and their employers, and to show, not to Massachusetts only, but to the whole country, that the very best remedy of what are called "labor difficulties," is to be found in the good sense and intelligence of all classes, yes, and in the sympathy of all classes with each other.

SUCH reports corroborate the impressions we have all received from the success of Arbitration Boards in England, which are entrusted with much larger powers. They are of especial importance at this time, when the quarrels among the servants of railroad companies challenge public attention everywhere, and when, in so many instances, they have been serious barriers before the currents of trade. The public does not fail to remember that the best-paid officer in the management of a railway is as much the servant of the company, as is the boy who sweeps out the station-house for three dollars a week. The public expects that these "servants" shall all be held

to their duties, first to the company, and second to the state or nation which has called the company into being. The public has granted enormous facilities to the railway companies, because the public would create so many new rivers by which the products of the industries of the country may be moved from place to place. And the public expects to apply to the navigation of these rivers, if we may continue that figure, the same rules which govern the navigation of the great rivers which flow from the mountains to the sea. If some cluster of robber barons took possession of an island in the Mississippi, and undertook to check the commerce passing down that river to the Gulf for a half-day, it would soon appear that there was a Government strong enough to free that navigation from such incumbrance. Whatever the local rights, or whatever the grievances, of these robber barons, the government of the United States would see that the Mississippi river was made navigable, whether for a palace steamer, or for a flat-boat. The People of the United States will not long permit any company of men, under whatever title, to restrict passage over any or all the great thoroughfares of trade. There may be wrongs to be righted; there may be rights to be secured. The People of the United States has wit enough for devising methods to right these wrongs, and to establish these rights. The obstruction of trade, however, is not one of those methods. The People of the United States created the federal constitution with the purpose, first of all, that trade should not be obstructed between state and state. There would have been no federal constitution if the People of the United States, in 1786 and 1787, had not absolutely determined upon freedom of trade between state and state. And the People of the United States now does not propose to permit any obstruction to such freedom.

WHEN we say this, we need not, for the present, go into any detail as to the methods by which the rights of stockholders, or the rights of workmen, may be secured, or in which their wrongs may be compensated. Indeed, that is matter of detail, to be attended to in ways not unlike those which are established for establishing other rights and righting other wrongs. For the great purpose of securing freedom of commerce over all avenues between state and state, it would seem that there is power enough now, under the constitution, if the executive and the legislature are not too timid for the new emergencies which have grown up under the new systems of commerce. We have no fear of such timidity. Mr. Anderson, an intelligent member from Kansas, has introduced a bill which distinctly provides that commerce shall not be obstructed. It is called "A bill to declare the duties, enforce the obligations and regulate the service of railroad companies, as carriers of interstate commerce." It recognizes the fact that a railroad which does not pass the limit of any state stands on a different footing from a railroad which goes from one state to another. When a road does cross a state line, of course the constitutional right of the country to regulate commerce "among the states" comes in. But, on the other hand, this bill provides that no state railroad shall become a carrier of interstate commerce except by the permission and authority of the United States. The act of 1866 is so amended by the bill as to include only such state corporations as accept the provisions of the bill. All others are prohibited from entering into interstate commerce under heavy penalties. Every railroad subject to the bill, for which private property has been taken by eminent domain, is made a public highway of the United States. The bill regards all railroads under these several descriptions as so many custodians and

trustees of public property. They are bound to maintain and operate the same for the public benefit, subject only to their charter rights.

In the event of a failure of any company to run its regular trains, the Interstate Commerce Commission must promptly investigate the facts, and issue such orders to the company as will secure the regular service. If, after seven days, that service is not performed, the Attorney-general is required to procure the appointment of a receiver, who is to operate the road as for the United States, and may employ the old force.

In opposition to legislation which takes this ground, the old plea will be urged, founded on the theory of the *laissez faire* economists, that the government of the United States must not manage railroads, and cannot. We shall be told of the danger of partisanship and political interference in business affairs.

It is entirely forgotten, or seems to be, by the persons who bring up these commonplaces of two generations ago, that, in the last ten years, the United States has run more than half the railroads at the West. The United States courts have, again and again, appointed receivers who have taken charge of corporations bankrupt or disabled in any other way, and have carried them on for the benefit of all concerned. It is perfectly well-known among persons interested in railroads that, on the whole, the receivers in charge of such railroads have carried them on better than they were carried on before. There has been no serious difficulty in running railroads in this way. The courts have had no interest in the appointment of receivers who would not do full justice to the public, to the creditors, and to the stockholders. Those of our readers who are connected with railroad business know perfectly well that, in many instances, the poor stockholders, who, after all, do have some rights, though this seems to be generally forgotten, have fared better in the hands of receivers than they have ever fared in the hands of directors whom they were supposed to choose. The theoretical protest, therefore, that the government of the United States must not condescend to carrying on railroads if it be necessary, breaks down entirely before the fact. The government of the United States has condescended to do this for many years, possibly it will have to do it for many years to come. The mere fact that it proposes to do it will check many a quarrel which is now carried on among squabbling children, under the impression that papa and mamma are far away from home.

Two days before Mr. Anderson introduced this bill, the bill creating Boards of Arbitration for the settlement of controversies and differences passed the House in committee of the whole. The bill was condemned, naturally enough, as being delicate and weak, pointing nowhere and going nowhere. "It was as useless as a balloon; it was a mere tub to the whale." But the House indicated the temper of the whole business community, when the committee reported the bill without a division, for what it was, though it is substantially similar to that which passed during the last Congress, in providing machinery by which the difficulties arising between workmen and superintendents on interstate railroads may be settled by voluntary arbitration. The sixth section, however, is new. It proposes a plan not very different from that on which the Arbitration Commission of Massachusetts exists. It authorizes the president to select two special commissioners, one of whom at least shall be

a resident of the state or territory in which the controversy arises, who, together with the Commissioner of Labor, shall constitute a temporary commission for the purpose of examining the cause of the controversy, the conditions accompanying, and the best means of adjusting it, the result of which examination shall be immediately reported to the President and Congress, and, on the rendering of such report, the services of the two special commissioners shall cease. The services of the commission to be ordered at the time by the President, and constituted as herein provided, may be tendered by the President for the purpose of settling a controversy such as contemplated, either upon his own motion, or upon the application of one of the parties to the controversy, or upon the application of the governor of a state.

We regard those criticisms as just, in which gentlemen said that this bill does not go far enough. Still, it may be taken for a beginning. The true arrangement would seem to be the appointment by the President of a permanent commission of Arbitration, to be named from men of judicial capacity as well as business training, who shall command the respect of the community as other judges do. Such a board, in its appointments and in its powers, should be so constituted that men of the best class could be secured for its service. It should have the power of making immediate investigation, upon the ground, of the causes of dispute between workmen and their employers. And it should have authority to provide at least a *modus vivandi* while such disputes are adjusted. But, wholly aside from all such questions of arbitration as to the rights and wrongs, is the power of government, already alluded to, to secure free trade over every channel of trade. This power must not be mixed up with the agitation between man and man. "Commerce among the states" must be kept forever free.

MONT DE PIÉTÉ.

BY J. S. WOOD.

THE question of relieving the poor man who has not yet reached the ranks of pauperdom by loaning him money on his personal property, at a low per cent, is answered in France and Italy by the famous Monts de Piété.

These are institutions under charge of the government which seek to protect the poor man and relieve him without imposing too great a burden of interest.

The poor man always has times when it is necessary for him to obtain a loan of money. Some emergency occurs, when a few dollars are an absolute necessity. He cannot borrow of his poor neighbors. He goes to the pawnshop. There, under the law as it is in New York city, he pays three per cent a month for six months and

two per cent after six months on sums less than \$100.

Even under the law, it is seen that he pays six times the legal rate of interest for ordinary loans of money (six per cent) in New York. But the law contemplates the risk of loss which the pawnbroker takes, and so increases the rate. The law does not perceive that the pawnbroker really takes no risk whatever, as he estimates the article pawned at about one-third of its value and then loans about one-third that decreased amount.

But Fagin, the Jew pawnbroker, is rarely content with his legitimate per cent. He wants more out of the starving poor.

Thus he requires the pawnor to consent to an increased rate provided he will

loan the sum asked for. If A, a poor working woman, asks for five dollars, on a dress, or a bit of jewelry, Fagin says: "I vill gif you two dollar, no more."

If the poor woman needs five dollars and insists, Fagin then asks an increased per cent, say ten per cent a month, *and invariably gets it*. This being on consent, he regards it as fair and proper. Of course this is illegal, but he is never prosecuted, as the cost of a prosecution is always more than the poor man or woman can bear.

Careful estimates show that the present pawnbroking system in New York is the cause not only of pauperism, but of crime. The thief knows of a certainty that he can always sell his spoils to certain pawnbrokers. In fact, many a theft has been traced through the pawnshop. A few years ago a notorious woman "fence," as it is termed, was one of the largest pawn dealers in the metropolis. For years she had subsidized the police, and had escaped all interference. There are more like Mrs. Mandelbaum in New York. The pawnshops as now conducted ought not to be tolerated. Charities must try to protect the honest poor and save them from pauperism. A noble charity it would be, if some of our great philanthropists of Boston, New York, or Philadelphia, would do for their several cities what the French government does for its Paris poor. It does not foster pauperism because it requires an equivalent from the poor man. It is not a gift of money, it is a bargain; but instead of cheating the poor man out of his all, it says: "Here, we will loan you ten dollars on your watch. When you pay us back ten dollars plus a *small sum for expenses*, you can get your watch back."

Three hundred thousand pawn-tickets

are supposed to be issued every year in New York. Putting this at the low sum of two dollars a ticket loaned we have \$600,000 loaned, on which the pawnbroker earns (legally) about \$210,000. Just think of this! This (and probably a much larger sum) the poor pay annually in tribute to Fagin the pawnbroker! No wonder that fortunes are amassed, and that the poor are ground down by this tremendous tax levied upon those who are least able to bear it. In these days the poor man is knocking at the doors of legislative halls, and all sorts of laws are being involved in his behalf. So far Fagin has escaped. But the day will surely come when either by private charity or public law a system like the Paris Mont de Piété will be established here. Remember two facts:

1. The poor always have emergencies when they *must* borrow from some one.
2. The present system consists in simply causing them to sell what they have for one-fifth their value, and thus losing four-fifths of actual property. It is a system of open, flagrant robbery of those least able to bear it.

A system by which a fund of \$200,000 is established: clean, wholesome offices opened: capable, honest attendants engaged, and a low per cent is charged—this is all there is of the Mont de Piété. One such system established in any city, and the pawnbroker would be legitimately driven out of business, or compelled to do business on the same honest basis as the charity institution.

But that is only a portion of the good that such an institution would do. Think how, in many ways, knowledge would thus be gained of want and destitution and relief afforded!

WEALTH IN COMMON.

BY EDWARD E. HALE.

An address at the opening meeting of the Society for Citizenship, Boston.

IN the instructive and interesting study by Mr. Lawrence Gronlund, just now published, called *A Co-operative Commonwealth*, he pushes to the full the plans by which the state shall own and direct all the establishments for manufacture. Perhaps it would be fair to say that the different theorists who attempt a reconstruction of the present relations of industry are all examining the question, how much of our wealth should be wealth in common and what part of it should be personal, or, as the Latins said, *proprium*, so as to come under the head of individual property.

It seems to me that all such discussions will be made more simple if we look more closely than I think men are apt to look on the wealth in common held in practice by the community now; I think we shall see that we have no new question in hand, but a question to which we have been working out the answers since the beginning of civilization. We shall find that society on the one hand and individual men on the other are always eager to try how far the system of common property can be pressed. And it seems probable that the result which we have attained is not a mere hap-hazard and rule of thumb result; but rather that it is the solution self-wrought by continued experiments in which the law of selection has applied. A great many experiments have failed. A great many have succeeded. The result, as I suppose, is what the community will now bear. In that result, as we shall see, the prejudice for many centuries has been in favor of the original plan by which all property was the property of the community. From this plan successive exceptions have been taken,

which result in such personal property, as we call it, as is held to-day. I shall not find a better statement of the average feeling on the subject than that of Franklin. He says in a letter to Morris, written when he was seventy-seven years old:

“ All property, indeed, except the savage’s temporary cabin, his bow, his match-coat,* and other little acquisitions, absolutely necessary for his subsistence, seems to me the creature of public convention. Hence the public has the right of regulating descents, and all other conveyances of property, and even of limiting the quantity and the uses of it. All the property that is necessary to a man, for the conservation of the individual and the propagation of the species, is his natural right, which none can justly deprive him of; but all property superfluous to such purposes is the property of the public, who, by their laws, have created it, and who may, therefore, by other laws, dispose of it. whenever the welfare of the public, shall demand such disposition. He that does not like civil society on these terms, let him retire and live among savages. He can have no right to the benefits of society, who will not pay his club toward the support of it.”

It has been fully proved that to take up the theory of common property in land is to return to a system which we have long since outgrown, or, to say the least, have long since abandoned. Thus the Iroquois Indians had common fields and by the common labor built upon them great houses, in which they shared the rigors of winter. This was an advance, if you please, from the simplest savage life, in which

*Probably a copyist's error. The word is not found elsewhere.

a man lives quite alone, feeding on the snake or lizard, which he can kill, or the wild root, which he can dig from the soil. But, as this is an advance, so from the system of common property the next advance is made when the individual cultivates his own land, and is protected in his individual holding by the common force of the community.

It is then an advance on the system of the Iroquois when the United States, holding large quantities of land in common, enacts laws by which any person who is willing to cultivate a share of those lands may take it, without payment, and cultivate it in his own way, as his own fancy may suggest, or his own skill. Mr. Gronlund would tell us that society, knowing more than the individual farmer, should give directions for the working of the whole. That is to say, Mr. Gronlund wishes society to keep the property, to muster the farmers upon the ground, and to conduct an election in which they shall choose their own foremen and directors. Under the instructions of these foremen they are then to cultivate the land and they are to share the products. I do not discuss this plan. I cite it simply to say that it is not a new plan. It is precisely the plan of the Iroquois and of other tribes in the same grade of civilization. Gradually it proves that the individual wants some things for himself and that some things have to fit his individual tastes. Franklin names his cabin, his matchcoat (whatever that may be) and "his other little acquisitions." Robin Hood needs one bow, Little John needs another and neither likes to have the other meddle with his weapon. One man wants oatmeal in his family, another wants hominy, and gradually, therefore, it is determined that each man shall have his own holding, that he may plant his own oats or his own corn. If he chooses, he plants neither, lets his land grow wild and relies for his food on the streams or on the chase. The Irish "hammer

throw" will be remembered, in which each man might stand at the door of his cabin, throw his hammer as far as he could and hold as his own all the land in a circle around him drawn by a radius which that critical hammer throw directed. These holdings were called the "hammer-throw holdings." In this way, as civilization advances, personal property comes in by so many exceptions from the original theory of a common right. Nattie Bumppo owns his own rifle, as Robin Hood owns his own bow and arrows. The original right in common still holds in some cases where the individual claims his share in it and measures that share by his own industry and skill. Thus there are still some New England townships, where men may cut their firewood from the common woodlands; or large ponds open to fishing on equal rights to the people of the towns in which they are. On the seashore the beaches are held in common below the line of high tide for the use of any member of that community. These are so many instances where the general convenience has retained the original system in which all property was held in this way, and where the individual takes what he considers as his own share.

Now the theorists of all time look with a certain dissatisfaction on every step by which personal property has thus been assumed and with a certain regret on the original system, by which there was virtually no personal property, either in land or in anything. At the point where I say, "This hat is mine," or, "This hoe or gun is mine," there comes in the cry that such a holding is a selfish holding. On one side some men say that this is not the Christian scheme, because in the Christian scheme we should bear each other's burdens; and on the other side, men who do not care in the least for Christianity say that the rich grow richer and the poor grow poorer under this scheme. It is with direct reference to

such complaints that I propose to call your attention to the facts, that you may see how far, in our present system, our wealth in common goes. It seems to me that we may limit the discontents from such complaints if men understand how large now is their share in "the wealth in common." I think that the more careful the study, the more definitely will it appear that the private rights which have been granted to individuals have been granted to them after careful experiment, and because society has satisfied itself that it was safest and best to make such a disposition.

For the statement of facts, I shall take the present valuation of the city of Boston, because we are in Boston, and because I happen to be most familiar with this city. The valuation of the city, as reported by the auditor in 1886, was \$710,621,335, held by separate persons and corporations. To this is to be added—of property held by the city: the common and public squares, the new park, and a large amount of land to which no value is assigned.

Now, at the same time, the same assessors valued the real and personal property of the city of Boston as a corporation as \$68,827,245. There is to be added also the cost, whatever it may be, of the streets and roads of the city, which have been, sooner or later, obtained at the public charge, or reserved from the common property when the separate property was granted to individuals.

In addition to this property held by the City government, we have all the property of the United States within the limits of the city, embracing the Navy Yard, with acres on the deepest water front of the city, and the two islands, with their fortifications, which represent an expenditure only to be counted in tens of millions. The United States also owns the Custom House and the Post-office. The land occupied by these buildings, and the cost of the buildings themselves, would

be, I suppose, eight or ten millions of dollars.

The property of the Commonwealth in the city is the State House, with the land adjacent, and a very considerable property still on the Back Bay, together with the rights, similar to those which have been used in the Back Bay, to all the land beneath the sea, below the line of low water mark. The state also reserves the right of eminent domain to the whole property.

Roughly stated these sums will foot up thus:

City Property, (assessors' return)	\$68,827,245
Common and squares, 125 acres, say	25,000,000
Cost of streets (50 years)	35,681,547
Pavements (15 years), say,	15,000,000
Sewers (15 years), say,	2,600,000
New Park	4,975,000
Improved Trunk Sewer, etc., say,	4,000,000
Bridges (15 years), say,	2,000,000
	158,083,792

To this, very considerable additions must be made—not so easily estimated. There is the property in real estate and funds of all public associations, which hold property for the common good. Such institutions as the Massachusetts Hospital, the Eye and Ear Infirmary, the Dispensary, and similar institutions, are a part of the wealth in common which the citizen shares, by himself or by any one who is in need of their relief. So of the property in churches. They are open to all persons who will enter. Any church not open to any person who wished to enter would be taxed by the Commonwealth as a private club-house, which, indeed, it would be. So far forth, then, the real estate of 200 and more churches is to be considered as adding to the amount of the wealth in common.

To these sums must be added, a navy yard of eighty-three acres, owned by the United States, on a perfect water front, and all the national property in the forts in the harbor, with the Custom house and Court house.

There must also be added the property of the Commonwealth. Beside the State House, the city, state and United States hold 30,000,000 square feet of land within the limits of Boston, not named above, on which no valuation is placed.

All these amounts together show that our wealth in common is certainly much more than one-half the total wealth of all the separate properties.

But, in truth, our wealth in common goes much further. For in common we hold all the margin of property which does not appear on assessors' lists, and yet which has a value for us. Suppose a railway, which does not pay more than its expenses. Its stock is worth perhaps nothing, and does not appear on any valuation. Still, if it carry me to and fro every day, it is a part of my wealth in common.

The estimate above includes of the property of the Nation only its real estate within the town of Boston. But the people of Boston have an undivided share in the wealth in common held by the United States in its Public Lands, its Army and Navy and Post-office Departments, its Libraries and Laboratories. The citizens of Massachusetts have a similar share in all the wealth in common held by that State.

More than this, for the administration of our wealth in common, we exact every year probably sixteen thousandths, more than one and a half per cent of that private "Property" against which our wealth in common has been compared. What is the proper worth of property, aside from the industry of the owner, cannot be precisely said. Government stocks, where there is good credit, pay a little less than three per cent. The real interest on money, where there is no intelligence used in its direction, may perhaps now be called four per cent. The community takes one and a half per cent of this in the shape of taxes. It appears that the community takes fifteen-fortieths, or

three-eighths of the income of private property—towards the wealth in common. With this it administers justice, maintains the peace, educates the children, preserves the health and serves the general welfare of the people.

Were the wealth in common then only one-half what the total separate wealth is, the rough showing would be this:

In common each man holds, say, one-half of A.

He has the control of one-third of A.

In private the average man has the control of two-thirds of A, provided he has not mortgaged A, or otherwise encumbered it.

It may seriously be asked—whether this share is not all which any community can wisely bear to leave to the common virtue, and to public spirit.

It will probably prove that the private holdings have been conceded—on the whole—as the result of careful experience.

This is certain, that it is the enormous accumulation of our wealth in common which causes the concentration of people in the cities where the common wealth is large. Good libraries, good pavements, good amusements, good hospitals, are opened by the common wealth to all.

It is not true that our present civilization is hard and selfish. As we live now each man bears his brother's burdens. Now, if he flinch in bearing, he finds the gentle pressure of the law which compels him to mend the roads, to provide for schools, it may be to set water flowing, to build the dams and bridges and forts and court-houses. Society has been learning this lesson for ages upon ages. Society has learned the other lesson at the same time. If I write with my pen it is because it fits my hand better than yours. If I pick my own apple from my own tree, it is because I know the

scion, I know the tree, and I have learned how to care for it. And if I till my own farm, instead of rendering a share in the labor which cultivates the farm of a phalanstery it is because that experiment of common culture has been tried so thoroughly that the races who had tired of it knew that it only went half-way.

It remains for us to-day to see what we can do for our children, that they may preserve for their children the great empire of our common wealth which secures

for them the blessings, physical and moral, which they enjoy.

[NOTE.—The charge for streets is simply what has been paid by the city for land in the last fifty years. It makes no estimate for the older streets and roads.

The charge for paving and sewers is about the actual cost in the last fifteen years, that being a rough estimate of the average "life" of such work.

The charge for bridges is made in the same way.]

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

BY SEPTIMUS FRASER.

THE *Century* for November, 1887, contains an open letter by Mr. E. B. Perry on The Education of the Blind. In a previous letter, Mr. Perry said that seeing persons were unable to judge of the needs of the blind; but perhaps he may be willing to listen to the opinions of one who has the same right to speak as he, and whose school-days all were spent in the Massachusetts School for the Blind.

Referring to special schools for the blind, Mr. Perry says:

"I am very far from denying the great value to any and all pupils in the pursuit of certain peculiar branches of study, and in learning the application and use of certain inventions peculiar to the needs of the blind; and a short attendance at some institution of the kind is most advisable, say from one to three years. But this time should be amply sufficient in which to avail one's self of such particular advantages, and a longer sojourn even at one of the best institutions I hold to be decidedly detrimental."

From these words one may infer that it is a comparatively easy matter for a blind child to acquire the use of the spe-

cial appliances necessary to his education; and so indeed it is when the mind of the child has been trained so far as to enable him to understand his tools and use them. But the fact is that a large number of blind children come to school with faculties sadly impaired by inactivity. Among most parents of blind children, it seems to be a foregone conclusion that a lack of sight almost necessitates a lack of sense, and so the blind child is not treated like the other children of the family; the consequence of this is that, when he is sent to school at the age of ten years, his mind is but little older than that of a child of four or five years. To take one of these children and so educate him as to enable him to return home after "a sojourn" of one, two, or even three years at one of the special schools, and superintend his own education, which he would be obliged to do to a great degree, as the average teacher would hardly be fitted for such a task, seems to me truly absurd.

Mr. Perry remarks that as it is in the "actual active world that the blind must live and labor, and not within the sheltering walls of an asylum," it would be well

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for them to get into real life among their fellow-beings as soon as possible. This does not coincide with the reasoning of fond parents who send their promising boys to college that they may be prepared for active life by men whose lives are devoted to the science and art of education. If bright, seeing children with every opportunity for right development need the training of specialists, how much greater is the need of ordinary blind children!

Mr. Perry objects to schools for the blind, because he says the pupils contract there certain peculiar habits, such as "snapping the fingers to indicate the position of the extended hand" when about to exchange friendly greetings or pass any object, and other "blindisms."

My experience while at school was that much was done to prevent boys from falling into such habits, and to correct any one who had acquired them already.*

Speaking of embossed books for the use of the blind, Mr. Perry says:

"I regard as wholly wasted the time spent in reading the ordinary raised print so long in use. This is one of the inventions of the seeing for the blind. It is always a slow, laborious process, at best, to feel one's way through one of those cumbersome volumes, though it may be interesting to the looker-on."

Let us deal with the last statement first. Is it always a slow, laborious process at best? With those who attempt learning to read after reaching years of maturity, I believe it generally is. The reason for this is that the finger-tips are hard, owing to previous labor of some sort, or the nerves of sensation dull because of disuse. With blind children, however, it is quite the contrary. When rightly taught (and this is by no means a difficult task) they acquire with ease the power to read, it being one of the simplest and certainly one of the pleasantest

of their tasks to learn to read for themselves the thoughts of great and good men.

If any one doubts the blind child's pleasure in reading, let him depend wholly for a single day upon the sight of another for his reading, and I am sure he will doubt no longer.*

Nor does this power to read embossed print require even an average intelligence; for so far as I could observe during my school life, I found that many boys of small ability made good readers; one whom I have in mind was remarkable for his rapid and correct reading, and yet he was quite unable to rise into one of the higher classes. This proves to my satisfaction that reading with the finger-tips is by no means the difficult task Mr. Perry would have us suppose it.

And now as to the waste of time: Setting aside all the claims for any enjoyment derived by the reader, is there not much to be learned, in the art of spelling, for instance? Where can one get better lessons in spelling than in the careful reading of a book? And who needs more to acquire the difficult art than the blind, who, as Mr. Perry tells us, cannot read their own writing? But let us not set aside the comfort and enjoyment afforded the blind by this privilege of reading themselves. Even though they may not be able to read as rapidly as do the seeing, and even though they cannot read quickly enough to interest listeners, which in a number of instances within my personal knowledge is not the case, still they can and do read quickly enough to get the author's thought. I am sure that most blind children who can read consider it a source of real enjoyment to be able to read for themselves and by themselves at times. Not that they do not enjoy hearing others read to them; but to be able to read one's self gives a feeling of independence not known to those blind persons who cannot read.

*It may be remarked that "snapping the fingers," if it be a vice, is one well known in "seeing" schools.—EDITOR.

*Helen Keller learned to read and to write in four months.—EDITOR.

I have hitherto referred solely to the embossed books for the blind, not that I ignore the Braille system of printing, for it is my privilege to read both with ease. Mr. Perry affirms that there are very few books printed in Braille in this country. The reason doubtless is that the embossed type is deemed by most of those engaged in the education of the blind far superior to Braille for books. This I think is true for many reasons. The embossed print is more easily read when the characters have been thoroughly mastered, and is preferred by those who readily use both systems. Owing to the sharp points of the Braille, one can read a much shorter time without unpleasant sensations in the finger-tips. Embossed print has a smoother surface and there is consequently less friction. The embossed letter takes up less space, which may be proved easily by reproducing a paragraph of embossed print in Braille.

Mr. Perry objects to the bulkiness of the embossed books, but if the same matter were printed in Braille, and bound as the embossed books are, he would have greater cause for objection.

Mr. Perry says that the works of any value so printed may almost "be numbered upon the fingers of one hand." In answer to which I subjoin lists of the works published by the office of the Perkins Institution, in South Boston, and the Philadelphia Home.

It is perfectly true that embossed books are very expensive: still any blind child in the United States can have at pleasure most of the books now published or to be published; for it was to this end that special funds were raised.

The blind of New England, certainly, whether educated at the school in Boston or not, may borrow any book issued by the Home Memorial Press. Lending the books is not regarded by the authorities as an act of charity, save as the charitable act of all those who subscribed to the fund that renders such liberality possible.

To the indigent blind and to all who do not properly belong to that unfortunate class, but who do not feel able to purchase for themselves "The Book of Books," the American Bible Society is at all times ready to supply a complete copy of the Bible, free of expense, for the life of the borrower.

The expense of the books is, therefore, no argument against them, since they cost nothing to those for whose use they were intended. Moreover, those who wish to own books can buy them at just what the paper and printing cost, the average price being three dollars and a half a volume.

Let us who are blind endeavor to encourage at all times those who are working so faithfully and so patiently for the good of that class to which we belong, and let us not seek to destroy, even in part, the working of a system of education which has done so much for so many, until we are prepared to suggest a more feasible one, and one productive of better results.

Mr. Perry's words are doubtless the outcome of his own personal experience, which is not, however, that of the average blind child, and therefore should not be taken as a criterion.

LIST OF EMBOSSED BOOKS.

Printed at the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the Blind.

Book of Proverbs; Book of Psalms; New Testament; Book of Common Prayer; Baxter's Call; Hymns for the Blind; Pilgrim's Progress; Natural Theology; Selections from the Works of Swedenborg; Biographical Sketches of Distinguished Persons; Biographical Sketch of George Eliot; Memoir of Dr. Samuel G. Howe; Howe's Cyclopaedia; Combe's Constitution of Man; Cutter's Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene; "Life and her Children," or a Reader of Natural History; Philosophy of Natural History; Geometrical Diagrams; Wentworth's Gram-

mar School Arithmetic; Huxley's Science Primers, Introductory; Higginson's Young Folks' History of the United States; Constitution of the United States; Dicken's Child's History of England; Freeman's History of Europe; Schmitz's History of Greece; Schmitz's History of Rome; Guyot's Geography; Scribner's Geographical Reader; American Prose; Most Celebrated Diamonds, by Julia R. Anagnos; Dickens's Christmas Carol, with Extracts from Pickwick; Dickens's David Copperfield; Dickens's Old Curiosity Shop; Emerson's Essays; Extracts from British and American Literature; George Eliot's *Silas Marner*; Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield; Hawthorne's Scarlet Letter; Hawthorne's Tanglewood Tales; Scott's Quentin Durward; Scott's Talisman; The Deacon's Week; The Last Days of Pompeii, by Edward Bulwer Lytton; Bryant's Poems; Byron's Hebrew Melodies and Childe Harold; Poetry of Byron, selected by Matthew Arnold; Holmes's Poems; Longfellow's Evangeline; Longfellow's Evangeline and other Poems; Lowell's Poems; Milton's Paradise Lost; Pope's Essay on Man and other Poems; Scott's Lay of the Last Minstrel and thirty-seven other Poems; Shakespeare's Hamlet and Julius Caesar; Shakespeare's King Henry Fifth; Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet; Tennyson's In Memoriam and other Poems; Whittier's Poems; Longfellow's Birthday, by Julia R. Anagnos; Commemoration Ode, by H. W. Stratton.

Juvenile Books.

Script and point alphabet sheets per hundred; An Eclectic Primer; Child's First Book; Child's Second Book; Child's Third Book; Child's Fourth Book; Child's Fifth Book; Child's Sixth Book; Child's Seventh Book; Youth's Library, volume first; Youth's Library, volume second; Youth's Library, volume third; Youth's Library, volume fourth; Youth's Library, volume fifth; Youth's Library, volume sixth; Youth's Library, volume seventh; Youth's Library, volume eighth; Andersen's Stories and Tales; Bible Stories in Bible Language, by Emilie Pousson; Children's Fairy Book, by M. Anagnos; Eliot's Six Arabian Nights; Heidi: translated from the German by Mrs. Brooks; Kingsley's Greek Heroes; Lodge's Twelve Popular Tales; The Queen of the Pirate Isle; What Katy Did, by Susan Coolidge.

SUNDAY AT THE PEOPLE'S PALACE.

BY JOHN WILLIAMS.

A VERY bitter controversy has been raging at the East End of London concerning the action of the Beaumont Trustees in opening the Palace to the people on Sundays. The Trustees, however, appear to be utterly regardless of the controversy and are unanimous upon the course they have taken despite all the "Working Men's Lord's Day Rest Association" and the "National Sunday League" combined have to say upon the question.

Sunday, March 18th, the Trustees threw open the doors to the people at 12:30 for a grand organ recital of sacred music by Mr. G. J. Rayner, organist of the Victoria Park Congregational Tabernacle. This is the first performance on the very fine organ which the Trustees have built since Her Majesty opened the

great central hall of the Palace last autumn. The programme was well suited to the audience it was prepared for. It included, amongst other popular sacred themes, two from Mozart's 12th Mass, one from the Creation, and one from the Messiah. Half-past twelve appears at first sight a rather unusual time for the commencement of the recital. Those, however, who are familiar with the habits of East End Londoners know that the women are only too glad to get rid of their lords and masters on Sunday mornings, that they may have their somewhat confined quarters to themselves on that portion of the day devoted to preparing a good hot dinner for them on the only day they have leisure to sit down and enjoy it. Now to the great majority of these expelled husbands it is a little rough, considering that on Sundays there are no public houses open until one o'clock, so that they have to eke out the time the best they can at street corners until that time. The Trustees, it appears, chose 12:30 as a time which was not likely to draw any one from places of worship, while it might probably catch a few of those hundreds of men who wait at the corners of the streets on Sunday for the opening of the public house at one o'clock. It seemed as if some might be drawn in to hear some good music in lieu of being filled with too much bad beer and spirits. It is as to how this very praiseworthy attempt is a success that the present controversy outside the Palace is waged. It appears from the observation of an intelligent working man posted at the door of the Palace one Sunday morning that out of 900 men whom he counted going into the Hall that Sunday morning from 8oo to 840 belonged, without doubt, to the working class. In refutation of this statement, the vicar of the Church, which unfortunately for his peace of mind is very next door to the Palace, posted himself yesterday at the gates of the Hall as the people came out from the organ recital. The

worthy vicar is convinced that the great majority attending that recital were not of the class supposed capable of being attracted by sacred music. He is of the opinion that more than two-thirds of the audience wore gloves; that they were not only not of the working class, but did not even belong to the East End population, or at least not of the neighborhood of the Palace, but came from a distance all round London in order, as he supposed, to give an appearance of success to this Sunday entertainment. The poor vicar is evidently very much exercised on the subject, convinced as he is that there is a Macchiavellian cunning in using the word "sacred" in connection with the music at these recitals. By and by he feels sure the word "sacred" will be dropped, and then—well! then. . . . Be that as it may it is very sure that the organ recital yesterday fully satisfied the promoters of the scheme. There were upwards of 900 men and youths present, all of whom sat perfectly mute and deeply attentive: the most perfect decorum reigned during the three-quarters of an hour of that most impressive music, music such as any of us would delight to get if we could every Sunday, and then the large assembly dispersed as quietly as if leaving a place of worship, as indeed they were. At two o'clock the doors are opened again. The hall is now converted into a reading-room. Near the door are stands on which are spread all the London dailies, and some weeklies, with a few Irish papers. Beyond this portion of the hall are tables, on most of which are pictorial and technical papers and magazines or piles of books. Over the various tables are tablets—"Technical," "Novels," "Geography," "Religious Works," "Emigration," "Contemporary," "Trade Journals," "Poetry," "History," etc., etc. There is one table set apart for "Ladies only." At nearly all these tables from two o'clock to half-past four, there are to be found from 100 to 200, men and youths for the most

part, with a few young women, all of them intent upon their books, and all of them as mute as you will find them any day in the reading-room of your grand Boston Free Library. From half-past four to five there is usually a movement made towards home, presumably for tea. On week-days, tea, coffee and eatables are provided for the habitués of the Palace, but on Sundays those who wish for their afternoon cup of tea must go elsewhere to obtain it. Unfortunately for some of the men and youths who attend the place on Sunday, home may be some little distance, and between the Palace and home there are quite a number of public houses and gin-palaces in full blast at that hour of the afternoon. The Trustees of the People's Palace have to be very careful what they do or do not do, for there are numbers of meddlesome people who are on the *qui vive* all the while to find some flaw in its management. Only a short time ago the People's Palace, or at least the Beaumont Trustees, got into trouble with the outside public on account of intoxicating drink having been introduced into the Hall at a dinner for which the Hall was let; so since then the Trustees have decided that under no circumstances whatever shall intoxicating drinks of any kind be introduced upon the premises. After six o'clock on Sunday evenings a

steady stream of people sets in for the Palace, so that as the evening progresses the large hall is thronged with guests. As many as 1,500 chairs are occupied by readers, very many of whom are engaged on books of the most thoughtful and advanced character. And it is gratifying to the friends of the East End population to know that, notwithstanding the large number of men and youths who attend the hall of the People's Palace on Sunday evenings, there is no regular place of worship (so called) either at the East or West end of London where more perfect order and decorum is maintained than by these worshipers of literature in the hall of the People's Palace. Men, women and boys of course select their own literature, which is dealt out to them by voluntary distributors from the various tables. Ladies and gentlemen sit one at the end of each table to deal out such books as are asked for or to take them back, as also to occasionally give a word of advice as to the selection of a book. Each one of these gentlemen and ladies, however, is an honorary laborer, and surely no labor in the King's work can be more honorable or satisfactory. It is also gratifying to know that beyond the services of a paid doorkeeper and a policeman, the opening of this large hall of the People's Palace costs nothing at all.

“MAY every soul that touches mine,
Be it the slightest contact, get therefrom some good,
Some little grace, one kindly thought,
One aspiration yet unfelt, one bit of courage
For the darkening sky; one gleam of faith
To brave the thickening ills of life;
One glimpse of brighter skies beyond the gathering mists,
To make this life worth while,
And Heaven a surer heritage.”

PRISCILLA'S EXILE.

CHAPTER IX.

THE next morning brought cheering counsels. When Miss Priscilla awoke, rather early, as was her wont, and opened her eyes upon her cool and pleasant chamber, with closed blinds, open window, its white curtains softly moving in a little breeze, she felt tranquil and refreshed, so that, as the events of the previous day presented themselves, they seemed not mountains but mole-hills, and she turned to studying the situation with something like alacrity.

If a crisis were really reached, something must be done. The Bone of Contention must be removed. John Baker must go. She would speak about it to Parkins at once. Other plans and projects crowded into her head, and she sprang up to make her toilet, all happy impatience for the day to begin.

Much to her surprise, no interview of importance took place with either handmaiden. As the mistress came downstairs, she encountered the pair setting to rights in the hall and on the piazzas with more than usual diligence, and somewhat noisy demonstrations. Katy, especially, was laughing and springing from place to place with a bright color in her cheeks, while Alice was helping her at every turn.

"Here, let me fold them wraps. What a sight on 'em!"

"You take that end and we will fold together."

Then superfluous giggling as the two girls ran against each other in their energetic haste.

Relieved, Miss Priscilla appeared to them, coming down the broad stairway, from the landing, fresh and pretty as she always looked in the morning, in a light but quiet summer dress and a little shawl round her shoulders.

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"Good-morning, girls, a lovely day!" she said, and passed on through the wide door-way to the porch.

"Good-morning, Miss Priscilla!" cried the two young voices, fresh and clear, with an almost tender intonation.

Whatever might happen later, a scene was averted for the moment, and the hostess was able to receive her multifarious family at the breakfast-table with her usual cheerful morning face.

Unbidden by the mistress, a bowl of wild roses, with dew still upon their petals, ornamented the middle of the table. She recognized in this the penitent hand of Katy, who loved the wild flowers better than the country girl did, but who often, of late, had allowed to fall into disuse the practice of an early bowl of them.

The good doctor came down rubbing his hands, rejoicing in his peaceful sleep and the sweet odors of a country morning. Mrs. John appeared all smiles, prepared to crush Alfred Crowe and conquer his friend. She passed the vacant seat of Mrs. Pratt with a perceptible smile, although she said, "Poor Arabella, she will have a warm day in town."

It was to be a day of departures, for several of the guests announced their intent to leave. The young men were to continue their northward trip. The doctor must return to his city patients. It seemed a good chance to return Scrubby and his cousin to their rightful owners, who, by the way, had shown singularly little impatience to receive them back.

Time-tables were sought and found; the usual discussion—Mrs. John remembering with pertinacity her favorite train of years ago, (which had long ceased to run,) because it brought her to town so

conveniently, to shop a little on the way home.

"The boys," she said, "had much better take that train."

"I am afraid," said Priscilla, "there is no train at that hour; there used to be, but they have changed."

John always took that train, although he preferred the later one. Maurice, look again at the time-table, my dear. It would hurry them a little, but John Baker can harness in a minute. Maurice, my dear, where is the time-table? I think the hour is 10:50."

"There is no such train!" shouted Maurice. "Come on, boys," and darted out of the breakfast-room, jerking wide the door. The mild morning breeze swung it back again. It closed with a bang.

"Those boys!" cried Mrs. John, jumped up, overturned the cream jug with the end of her shawl and pursued the fleeing youths, calling out, "Maurice, Jeremiah, you must begin to pack at once! There is no time to lose!"

"Better come back, madam, and finish your breakfast," said the portly doctor, pulling out his fat watch. "We do not leave the house for a couple of hours; I shall stay till the noon train, and the boys go with me."

Calm was restored, fresh cakes brought, a napkin put under the plate of Mrs. John, more cream discovered in the kitchen for her second cup.

"Have you seen your patient, Doctor, this morning?" now asked Miss Priscilla.

"Yes, I ventured to look in," he replied. "She is doing nicely. The swelling is already gone down. You have only to change the bandages, with cold water, from time to time, and I have explained all that to this little lady." He indicated Katy, who was at the moment offering him hot johnny-cake. "She promises to be head-nurse, to save you all care, and I dare say she will make a

good one." Katy blushed and smiled, and went on her way.

A lunch for the southward bound, an early dinner for the northward travellers, had to be provided. It was not until the afternoon that Miss Priscilla found leisure to consider what was to be done about the John Baker difficulty.

When the last wagon drove away, the family was left wonderfully diminished. Mrs. John retired to her room for a nap, after the fatigue of seeing the boys off. Maurice and his two sisters looked at each other as if for the first time in days, no leisure having been left them for family intercourse by the exigencies of hospitality.

"Poor old Scrubby!" said Fanny.

"He is a good fellow," said Maurice, with a yawn, "but I am glad he is gone. He is always wanting to do something."

"He forgot to say good-by for Patty!" said his sister, "and she sent him a message. She will not like it."

"Make one up and give it to her," said Maurice. "Can I go up there and see her?"

"No; the doctor says she must be quiet to-day. I am going to read to her."

"I wonder what I had best do," continued Maurice, with another great yawn. "I almost wish Scrubby were back. Why did not I go to the train with them? Oh! I remember, there was no room. I believe I will go and bother Parkins."

A great silence fell upon the house, such as belongs to midsummer. Lower rooms being deserted, shades were drawn down and doors closed, except the wide ones at each end of the long, low hall, through which floated a gentle draught, wafting to and fro whatever drapery was hanging there. Bright, hot sunshine blazed upon the drive-way, for the arch of elms which overhung the avenue began only with the slope of the hill, leaving the broad view open from the front of the house. Fields stretching far below began already to look parched and yellow; the distant river

gleamed and almost steamed. The horizon hung heavy with hot mists, through which the sun would presently descend, a ball of fire hung in the sultry atmosphere.

Miss Priscilla sought the drying-room, so called for reasons absolutely obsolete; it was a long, low chamber opening from the kitchen through a little between-place, so that there were double-doors, sometimes shut, which kept the heat of the kitchen away. It was pleasant, for there were two other doors on opposite sides of the room opening directly into shrubbery. Old lilacs had overgrown the spot, long since out of blossom, but shade-giving and cool. A little bit of garden-strip contained a clump of Jane's lilies, as the children called them, because they grew there; ugly yellow lilies, of the Old Maid variety, and next them, of course, a bunch of crimson phlox; a dreadful combination of color, but we would not have it otherwise, for it seems to belong to a certain order of things decreed by the early settlers of New England.

This was to be seen through one door. The view from the other was wider; a glimpse down a steep hill-side showed the back of Parkins's house, where his tumble-down fences, his decayed hen-house, his old-fashioned well-sweep, could be discerned, and where, beneath ancient apple-trees, turkeys paraded their fans, chickens scratched, and geese and ducks on their broad feet swayed along in solemn lines.

The drying-room was Jane's retreat. She kept it in a sort of order, not exactly orderly, but neat. Not Miss Priscilla, not Alice, nor Katy, dared disturb the pile of newspapers accumulating in the corner, though amongst them might lie hidden treasures in the way of lost holders, stray napkins, or even vanished scissors, most desired when thus out of the way.

Jane had been meaning to clear up that corner "ever since she came," and was coming to it some day, but not yet. Sitting in the door-way of the drying-room,

looking down towards Parkins's, and knitting on a blue wool stocking of large and doubtful proportions, Jane was found, and quite alone, as her mistress expected. That her mistress should so find her there was what the maid expected.

"Will you take the rock-chair, 'm?" she asked, rising from it, but Miss Priscilla waved her back, and dropped into a low chair she liked, which she caused to be kept in the drying-room for her especial use.

"Well, Jane, it seems as if I needed a little talk with you. Where are the girls?"

"Lor, 'm, who should say? Foraging round somewhere, no doubt, and getting sunstrokes. As matter of fact, though, I heard them up in their room as I came down; and Katy, I should not wonder, is fast asleep by this time, what with crying her eyes out all night, and Alice the same, no doubt. Fools."

"They seem the best of friends to-day, Jane. Do you think Katy means to go back to her grandmother?"

"Well, now, Miss Priscilla. I thought you knew human nature. She go back and swelter at that grandmother's when she is twice as better off where she is? Talk of people knowing what side their bread is buttered, they may and they may not, but Katy, she has no notion of leaving this place."

"But, Jane, she said she must go, last night, and when the first wagon came to the door I half expected to see her trunk brought down with the rest."

Heat-lightning by Jane, but no other reply. The heel of her stocking became all-absorbing for a moment.

"But, Jane, perhaps she had better go. Something must be done. We cannot be having this trouble going on about John Baker. I do not suppose he is in a position to think of marrying, and he may be only trifling with her. Perhaps John Baker had better go."

"In my opinion," said Jane, after a

long silence of struggle with the heel, "John Baker is about the usefulest of the lot, and as for marrying and giving in marriage, I do not see as it has come to that, not by a long ways, that is, in that direction."

"Well, then, in what direction?"

"Not in no direction as I knows on," said Jane, closing her mouth firmly, as if to put a stop to such speculations.

"Jane, you do not help me at all," said Miss Priscilla, plaintively, and she stood up with a sigh, as if the conference were ended.

"Now what's your hurry?" inquired Jane. She put down the knitting, took off her spectacles, edged the rock-chair forward, and thus began:

"Alice, you see, is angling round some for John Baker. He is a little extry to what she is accustomed, and all the girls round here have had their eye on him, seems, sence he come from the city. That's way back, before we come. He may or may not have took notice, and he may or may not be one of them as does. My opinion, he is a likely fellow to attend to his own business, and more took up with the critters than any on 'em, as fur as I see. You give him a horse to look after, and he 'll stand smoothing of 'em, and talking to them between his front teeth sooner than forty girls."

Jane stopped for wrath, and put out her hand toward the stocking; but Miss Priscilla intercepted it, saying:

"I will pick up those stitches, you go on."

"Now comes Katy; she puts on sights of airs, and gets them provoked. The two of them set to work to plan to tease her, and easy enough, for she does not know a cow from a lady-bug. But she has such pretty ways, and seems so kind of helpless, that John, he has took compassion of her—two or three times he has showed her consideration—so Miss Alice,

she has begun to strike in, and what with the heat, and Mis' Pratt and everything else, it's no great wonder they come to quarreling."

"Then you do not think there is much in it. Do you think I had better speak to John Baker?"

"No. He has been spoke to too much already. Mis' Pratt engaged herself in the business, appears, yesterday."

"What did she say to him, do you know, Jane?"

"Fur as I can find out, she warned him against the dangers of polygamy," said Jane, surmounting the word with fine ease, "and throwed them Mormons at his head. But I don't know, perhaps John Baker was only fooling."

"Well, Jane, I must go now. I feel rather easier, and think we may as well leave things as they are. I thought," she continued as she turned away, "that I should have a little talk with Parkins about it."

Jane started perceptibly.

"Parkins is with them all a good deal," went on Miss Priscilla, "and he might be able to prevent any undue sitting on wheelbarrows and waiting around for John Baker to come home."

"For the land's sake, Miss Priscilla, don't you go to saying anything to Parkins!"

"Why not, Jane!" exclaimed her mistress, surprised.

"Now you get out this minute! Sh, sh! Did you ever!" cried the worthy woman, but not to her mistress, charging upon a marauding band of chickens which strayed in at the door. "Sh, sh! to think of them coming away up the hill from Parkins's." She flapped at them with her checked apron and pursued them down the slope.

Miss Priscilla withdrew, somewhat comforted; but a vague sense of mystery still hung about the theme. "Why not speak to Parkins?"

CHAPTER X.

The confusion of these days was but a type of the way the summer went on. Patty's ankle gave little trouble, and she was soon able to come down-stairs. Her complete recovery brought her visit to an end, and she was driven off to the station.

But as some guests went others came, either invited or unexpected, so that a succession of arrivals and departures marked the long, bright days of July and the beginning of August.

Miss Priscilla found herself drifting into a sort of indifference as to the qualities of her guests, such as time-worn boarding-house keepers feel, who regard their inmates not exactly as individuals, but merely visible signs of space occupied. The front room, one flight, to them means twenty dollars a week, and no complaints about the food. The third pair back is fifteen dollars and must have oatmeal at breakfast, while the small side attic is of no great account, eats little, and pays not much but regularly.

The views of our hostess were not so mercenary, for her bank account was secure, her heart large, and the larder amply provided. Still, at the always slightly nervous hour of the day when teams might be expected to return from the train, as she saw the distant approaching wagon appear, then disappear, under the trees in the avenue, her thoughts mechanically took this form :

" Square chamber vacant, no one in the Bird-room, two beds in the upper story," or else :

" Where shall we put them? There is one spare mattress for that cot-bed, but pillows?"

No such calculations furrowed her brow, or diminished the smile of welcome with which she always stood in the doorway. Mrs. John, in her moments of self-communion, decided that Priscilla was growing old, for she took things much more easily than she had done for-

merly. She went so far as to say one day to Maurice :

" I think, my dear, your aunt is growing a little deaf."

" What makes you think so?" he exclaimed rather than asked, always quick to defend and praise Aunt Priscilla.

" She does not always notice what I say to her. I was trying to rouse her to the chance of the Alexanders all coming directly here when they arrive from abroad. As Mrs. Alexander was your grandmother's favorite niece, she has always considered herself perfectly at home here, and she would not hesitate to bring all her family; there are nine of them in all, though I do not know that he would come."

" Have they written to say they are coming?" asked Maurice.

" My dear, how should they write, being on the Atlantic?"

" I merely thought of it as a possibility, so as to plan where to put them if they should arrive, but I cannot make Priscilla give her mind to it."

No; to such anticipations Priscilla had no mind to give. She drifted on the peaceful current of her summer life, trusting details to energetic Jane and the handmaidens, enjoying much in the society of her guests as they came and went. To describe these in detail would be but a catalogue of names, which, as they made but little impression on their hostess, and but little, indeed, on each other, it would be hard to impress upon the reader.

Among those whom she thoroughly liked was her oldest nephew, William, the son of her brother's first marriage; for Mrs. John was the second Mrs. John. This nephew was a steady going, intelligent man, now almost middle-aged. Both he and his wife had always been able to get along perfectly well with their stepmother, which, indeed, was to the credit of all parties. William was married and out of the nest before his father's second

marriage. They lived in the West, and came eastward only at long intervals. Priscilla would have been glad to see more of them, and made them cordially welcome. Her William, and Mrs. William, and Mrs. William's sister, were all agreeable additions. The two friends, be it said, whom Miss Priscilla had expected early in the summer, warned by her in haste of the premature arrival of Madams John and Pratt, had turned aside into other ways, postponing their visit to the quieter period of autumn.

Uncle William kept Maurice in order, and that was a great comfort. The boy was a little in awe of him, and took up, in his presence, for daily use, the company manners he seldom assumed at the request of his mother. Maurice was so great a favorite with his Aunt Priscilla that she grieved to see the grave faults in his conduct. He was too young to have been under the excellent control of his father, whom, however, both the girls and the older boys remembered. Max kept Maurice in some order, but with a good deal of friction. Uncle John's influence made everything straight. At table he sat opposite Miss Priscilla, carved, and kept the conversation in a rational groove, much to her satisfaction.

The midsummer days passed without stirring events. Driving was postponed for the cool of late afternoons, and the mornings were spent, by the ladies, chiefly in their own quarters, with open doors, at sewing or reading, some word being occasionally exchanged from room to room. Some little pretence of reading French with her daughters, Mrs. John early abandoned when the warm weather came. "It was," she said, "so hot for them looking out words in the dictionary, poor things!"

An early dinner brought the family together: Uncle William and the boys from bathing, riding, or some energetic work suggested by the former, other guests from their solitudes, Miss Priscilla from

hers. Naps ruled the hour after dinner, followed by tea on the shady porch; and then the horses came round for long drives over the hills, through shady roads, along the river-banks. No nearer than ten miles there was a town where some little shopping could be done, and thither, when Mrs. John had her say, the horses' heads were often turned. Nothing would induce Miss Priscilla to take this excursion. When the town was mentioned, she ordered the pony-carriage for herself. The pony had redeemed his one escapade by a long course of sedate conduct, and John Baker had pronounced him perfectly safe. Miss Priscilla never took the reins herself, but felt secure when they were in the hands of Max or Maurice, either of whom asked no better than to be her driver. Such expeditions led to narrow lanes, through thickest woods, with, however, practical results in the shape of early apples from the Lucky Farm, or trout, river trout, from the man that lived by the little waterfall.

In the evening, after a very late "tea" without tea, because they had tea in the afternoon, the large piazza facing the east was the favorite resort of all. Here the moon rose, when it was full, and lighted the broad landscape, glittering upon the wide surface of the river at the bend. Here were plenty of chairs, cushioned or severe: the hammock here was stretched, and the low railing, hung with hardy vines, was a pleasant though uneasy seat. At this season it was seldom too chilly for sitting out-doors; Miss Priscilla gave the example by invariably settling herself for the evening, with wraps light or heavy, in her favorite corner.

Here, while the chat went on, she loved to listen to its various streams, herself sharing, here and there, one or another, or, silent, letting the whole go by, to watch the splendor of the moon triumphing over clouds that sought to hide.

One evening the assemblage was unusually large, even for Ruxton. Alfred

Crowe's friend was sitting on the railing near the hammock. This pair, by the way, had turned up again on their return, brown, and bored by the White Mountains, which they said had deteriorated, peaks lower than formerly and hotels poor. In the hammock was the prettier of the two nieces, Fanny, with whom Alfred's friend was practicing a bit of flirtation. It was her first essay at the business, poor child! scarce fifteen, but tall of her age, and ready-witted, as the modern young woman generally is. His method consisted in putting to her a series of questions with apparently some occult meaning, while in reality they had none at all.

"What do you do with yourself all day long? Do not you feel very lonely sometimes?"

"I do not know. There is a good deal to do. No, I do not feel lonely."

"Do not you ever, when you are alone, feel a great sort of longing to be somewhere else?"

"Oh, yes! I should like to go to Europe. I suppose we shall some day."

"I hope you will. Do you know, the moment I saw you, I wondered what you were thinking of."

"A shooting star!" cried Maurice, from the step of the piazza, and so there was one, moving slowly enough for all with eyes quick enough to follow where he pointed, radiant in spite of the strong moonlight.

Maurice was gathered with two or three other boys on the grass, or the piazza, where Max was trifling with the banjo.

"Give me that," said Alfred Crowe; and taking it he struck up a favorite though hackneyed song, which they all joined in more or less. Perhaps this was intended by Alfred to free himself from the persistence of Mrs. John, who had a fatal fondness for disagreeing with him on every subject. He went round to the other side of the boys, and broke up the *tête-à-tête* at the hammock by engaging his

friend in reminiscences of their trip. Mrs. John fell into the circle of the others, who were discussing the last number of the novel they were reading aloud together whenever chance furnished the occasion.

"I do not believe she is really in love with him," said his sister-in-law. "We are meant to think so, but no sensible woman could be in love with a man like that."

"Sensible woman," remarked William, "are singularly addicted to being in love with the wrong man, my dear sister."

"I know you always say so, and so does every man," she retorted; "but how could she be in love with him? He was vain, egotistical, lazy—"

"Handsome!" interrupted Mrs. William.

"I know, I know! Just as if every woman was carried away by a handsome face. For my part, it is a recommendation for them to be ugly. I mean a good, honest, weather-beaten sort of look."

"Thank you, my dear," said William, who was a little in this way of looks himself, and minded it not a bit.

"I was not thinking of you, William. I think you are very handsome, of the right sort."

"I know precisely what you mean," said Mrs. John. "They are generally in stores and have black hair. Women do fall in love with those sort of men very often, and just as likely as not there is nothing to them. But I do not know which one you mean in the book. I believe I was out of the room at that part. I must get somebody to tell me the story."

"How far were you, mamma?" said her second daughter, who, sitting with her head in her mother's lap, now spoke in a somewhat sleepy voice. "Did you hear them read about the accident in the last chapter?"

"Priscilla," said her brother, abruptly, "I shall have to go to town to-morrow in

the earliest train. Can I have some breakfast?"

"Yes, certainly, dear. Let me send word to Jane, if she be not gone to bed."

The tall old clock in the hall-way struck the hour slowly.

"Children, go to bed!" cried Mrs. John.

Eleven o'clock! how late it was! They left the moonlight reluctantly, and soon the house was still.

CHAPTER XI.

To tell the truth, Miss Priscilla was more interested in her experiment, that of bringing together the country girl and the city girl under the influence of refined and easy living, than in all the coming and going of the floating population at the front of the house. While her presence was there required for the greater part of the day, and while she lent a kindly attention and sometimes a cordial interest to the plans for amusement, or schemes of departure announced by her guests, she found time to speculate upon the state of affairs elsewhere, though not enough to investigate them as much as she could wish.

As far as physical well-being was concerned, the experiment was, without doubt, a success. The city girl had gained rosy cheeks, and the country girl an even appetite. The city girl had become gay and joyous, the country girl had learned a quiet demeanor, a great improvement upon the clatter of heels and banging of doors that marked her progress through the house at first.

One day, it was Friday, as Miss Priscilla had unusual occasion to leave her room in the middle of the morning to look for something in a piece-bag hanging in an entry closet, she ran across Alice sweeping the stairs, with her head tied up in a red bandana handkerchief.

"Why, Alice! you sweeping? How's this?"

"Yes, marm," she replied cheerfully.

"It does not hurt me one bit. I see" ("saw," she amended) Miss Barnes doing round so much, and I do want to help her all I can."

"That is very nice, Alice. I am sure you could not look better than you do now."

"My! I have gained pounds since I came."

On asking Jane about it immediately after, Miss Priscilla found that Alice and Katy now divided this terrible bugbear, the sweeping, between them, which had at first fallen to her own lot.

"But, lor," said Jane, "it's no sech great shakes to sweep down this house as you suppose, Miss. There aint no ashes nor coal-dust, nor sticks and stones blowing in out of the street from carts and carriages as there was in town. Why! in that street it was as much as your life's worth to keep the piano dusted from hour to hour when the windows was open, and now, just look-a-there." She drew her finger across the top of a mahogany cabinet which stood in the passage where this colloquy went on, to show that no mark of dust was betrayed by it, following the illustration, however, by wiping off the smooth surface with a swoop of her apron.

"To tell the truth, Jane, I forgot to ask you before about the sweeping. I knew you would see to it, but I did not mean you should do it yourself."

"That is all as it should be, marm. If you'll tend to the figurative part, I expect I can do for the natural. Katy," she added, "makes no bones of a broom. She is used to sech work. The grandmother, you know, Miss, for all she's Irish, and wears a frill to her cap like a coal-hod, had neatness in her gift."

Thus relieved, for she had felt quite ashamed of her negligence in not having herself arranged this all-important point, Miss Priscilla was turning away, when it occurred to her to ask Jane whether

the two girls were getting on well together.

"Oh! yes 'm. Thick as thieves ever since. Cleared the air, I expect; generally does, a little thunder, even if there aint no lightning. Looks like both now," she added, as she glanced from the wide-open window she stood by.

"I am so glad," sighed the mistress. "I was afraid we should have to dismiss John Baker."

"Dismiss John Baker! Why, landsakes, marm, he is the backbone of the house!"

So it was. John Baker had made himself indispensable in the household. His qualities of presence of mind, good judgment, readiness and physical strength had first shown themselves in the incident of the upsetting of the pony-wagon, and since that he had been steadily advancing his position in the house, until he had come to be called upon for almost everything. Parkins had somehow retired from the immediate foreground. He, it was to be supposed, had plenty to do about the farm; he was, indeed, to be seen frequently below in connection with ox-teams, going or returning to and from the distant meadows belonging to the property. When anything of deep importance was on foot, Miss Priscilla sought an interview with Parkins, but for all minor details John was always at hand. That was the day William returned from his short trip to town. As his aunt was sitting by him while he ate a solitary dinner, having arrived too late for the general one, he took occasion to say:

"Aunt Priscilla, that John Baker is a very nice sort of fellow. He drove me over and brought me back to-day, and I had a good deal of talk with him."

"Do tell me what you found out about him? I like him very much, but it is hard to tell his real character."

"I think him a fine, steady young man. He seems tired of town life, and shows

his good sense by thinking of settling down here. There is some little money in his mother's family, I should judge. He wants to try farming, and this gave me an idea, Aunt Priscilla."

"Well, William, you look very much as if you wished to give it to me."

"Why not offer him the small farm at the Bend, house and all, at a moderate rent, and let him see what he could make of it for your advantage."

"Well, but, William, I want him here! And, besides, that house is all tumbling down, and if it were put in order, there would have to be some woman to look after it."

"But if he should marry?"

"Marry! William, that is my nightmare. I am constantly expecting him to elope with either Katy or Alice. Did he consult you? Do tell me, which is it? Does he seem much in love?"

"O woman!" exclaimed William, laughing vigorously. "How you amplify! He named no names, and neither stormed nor sighed, but he spoke as if he wanted to make a good start in life, and he undoubtedly used the same expression I did just now, saying that if he should marry it would be convenient to have some house to look to."

"How delightful! I am sure he has one of the girls in his eye. We could fit up that house, William, and make it look lovely. Don't you remember, when we were children, old Marm Nichols and the johnny-cakes? That white rose is round the door still. Dear me, I wonder which of the girls it is; and which one could I spare best. But, O William! how could I spare John Baker, himself?"

The delight of the romance had for a moment veiled from her this question, but now, as it suddenly presented itself, her own lately established comfort seemed crumbling.

"Think it over, Aunt," said William.

"Nothing need be done yet about it, it would all be for another year. Oh! and

he expressly said he wished nothing at all said about his plans at present. He did look rather sheepish, my dear aunt, as he added that. I told him I would consider some opening for him and speak to you about it, but I did not mention the Bend place—in fact, I did not think of it until afterwards. Better not mention it to any one yet."

While they were speaking, the thunder-storm Jane had prophesied was upon them. Heavy black clouds came swooping up against the wind, and in an instant everything about the place that could swing or fly was in motion. All over the house nothing was to be heard but the rapid closing of blinds and sashes in every room. John Baker came running from the stables, having first shut the big doors there, to see if he could help in making everything secure. He was just in time, for piazza chairs were sliding about, straw hats and newspapers fluttering over the lawn, while great drops began to patter down upon rattling roofs.

The children came hurrying in from divers directions.

"Just in time!" cried Maurice, as he sank down upon a chair in the hall.

The family all collected in the large drawing-room and watched from the long windows the down-pour of waters, in almost darkness, lighted by vivid flashes of lightning and rattling thunder close upon them. Mrs. John was perfectly silent. For once the occasion was too much for her.

The tempest passed off as rapidly as it had come: in less than half an hour the low sun burst forth in splendor, sending level rays across saturated fields to make every drop on every blade sparkle with rainbow colors. The boys threw wide the outside doors, and a sweet, wet perfume was wafted into the house.

Alice now appeared to open again all the windows, with a cloth to remove superfluous drops. She looked flushed and even tired.

"Where is Katy?" asked Miss Priscilla. "She should be helping you, Alice."

"I don't know where she is," replied Alice.

Her mistress went out to make inquiries. Jane, in somewhat of a flurry, was restoring order after confusion in her own department.

"Them doors was all open, and jest you look!" she cried, showing a drenched floor in the drying-room. I can't be expected, as I know, to be in more than a dozen places at once, and while I'm flying to the top of the house the bottom is sure to come out."

"But, Jane, I am anxious about Katy. You don't think she was out in the storm?"

"For the sakes! I should think not. She does just know enough, I expect, to come in when it rains."

"But, Jane, where can the child be?"

"Why, marm, beyond the shadow of a doubt, she's down to Parkins."

"Gone down to Parkins!" exclaimed Miss Priscilla.

"She's down there considerable often lately," said Jane, somewhat reluctantly. "She's taken a notion to persuade Parkins to red up his settin'-room. 'Tis a pretty place, marm, as Mis' Parkins used to keep it, but it's run to seed since she passed on. There's the stove and the horse-hair sof, and the carpet has a handsome figure (according to their notions)," she added, with a superior nod. "Katy, she's set on him to put it into use for Sundays again, and, havin' took down them floatin' curtains and washed and done them up herself, she was down there this afternoon putting of them up again. And there's where she is and there's where Parkins is, if all should be told, instead of doing after things, and leaving everybody else to take in her own apron, which was on the line."

Jane shoved back the chairs she had moved from their places to "mop up,"

shut the doors vigorously and gave all the usual signs of being ruffled in her temper.

Miss Priscilla found it best to withdraw.

As she passed along a narrow passage, whose windows gave upon the hill-side, she saw Katy panting up the steep path leading from Parkins', holding her skirts out of the wet as well as she could, with

a hammer in one hand and her work-box in the other.

The wind, which was blowing freshly after the shower, fluttered her pretty hair before her eyes. It occurred to her mistress that Katy might encounter a worse breeze on reaching Jane's presence. She, herself, beat a hasty retreat.

A DAY-NURSERY.

BY M. E. C.

BEING in Boston, with considerable time at my disposal, I determined to turn it to some account by visiting a "Nursery," and accordingly took a blue-line horse-car, which I left, after a half-hour ride, at the entrance of a large house well beyond the limits of the city proper. This great house, which must be a remnant of good, old colonial times, judging from its plain, solid style of architecture, bears to-day in its well-conditioned state little resemblance to the neglected building of several years ago, when the place was the rendezvous of a sort of people not encountered in polite society.

Away back in those days an influence so strong for evil-doing emanated from this den of intemperance, the whole neighborhood was shadowed, and wages that should have purchased bread were the price of sorrow and want, and women, forced to make good what husbands squandered, went out to labor, leaving children to tend those too small to go to school or to care for themselves. This necessity for child-nurse labor so interrupted the attendance at public schools of many children that a day-nursery was established in the midst of the evil by a spirited woman. The originator began her work, not by striking immediately at the cause of the evil, but by renting half of a small frame house a few blocks be-

low the great one, and making it home-like and cheery with perfect cleanliness and simple, pretty furnishings. Into this fresh, bright home, whose outer door bore the legend, "Day-nursing and Kindergarten," came a calm-faced matron, who through long service in motherhood knew well how to care for the little children gathered from foul homes to receive their first lessons in cleanliness and kindred virtues. A big, good-natured woman, overflowing with good-will for every one, together with a bonny-faced maid, came also to share all burdens with the matron.

Each morning a bevy of small folks brought hither by mothers on the way to work, or by older brothers or sisters on their way to school, were made tidy by vigorous applications of soap, water and comb, and presentable by covering defects of clothing with well-laundered, pretty, light-colored print aprons.

Cleanliness thus established, the older children were sent into the lower rooms to be initiated into the delightful work and play of the system of which a cheery kindergartner was mistress; and, whether at work or play, a happier little band of children was not to be found. Meanwhile, up-stairs, the little tots, or "babies," played with toys, enjoyed the matron's mothering, or slept in cosy cribs in an immaculately kept bedroom.

The bright, young kindergartner says good-by to clinging little folks, the teacher-friend goes up-stairs, and presently the maid spreads the kindergarten tables with snowy linen and places bowls, spoons and chairs. Outside, in the back passage, plates of delicious, white bread are losing their heaped look, as busy hands cut into small bits their contents, which with steaming soup are to fill the bowls before each chair.

Up-stairs all are getting ready for dinner by buttoning on white linen bibs. Directly a little bell tinkles and a long line slowly comes down-stairs to wait in the front room till dinner preparations are completed. Little tots and greater ones chatter and tell the teacher-friend what they have accomplished in kindergarten during the morning, or sing, at her request, some of the many pretty songs learned in their play-work hours. Another tinkle announces dinner, and in a twinkling thirty children are finding places about the table; a demure hand folding precedes the signal to begin upon the strength-giving soup and bread cubes. A certain quiet refinement of manner is noticeable, about each and all, as bowls are filled and refilled, for every child is allowed all the food he wishes.

Dinner finished, and soiled faces or hands, made neat, the tots clamor for petting, which is very sure not to be refused by the teacher-friend, who, with a child cuddled against her breast, looks not unlike a sweet Madonna. All too soon she must away to fulfill the demands of her bread-winning; then children gather in the bright, down-stairs rooms, or go into the nursery to rest; the matron tells stories, reads aloud, directs play with toys or picture books; or teaches bead-stringing, and the principles of plain sewing, till the little sleepers above stairs awaken and join in joyous play, oftentimes lasting until the school-children come for their small charges left in the early morning.

When the head, heart, and almost hands, of this beautiful day-home returns from her afternoon work, there are bundles of ready-made clothing to be made up from the contents of a generously stocked closet; and when this labor, necessitating much judgment and discrimination, is accomplished, more likely than otherwise the seemingly never weary teacher herself carries the bundles into homes where are huddled children, none of whom could go without their home-room but for the contents of the welcome bundles.

With infinite patience she reached into all the lives about the degraded neighborhood, soothing, comforting, advising, extending sympathy to those deep in vice as well as those simply plunged into poverty through misfortune, or physical inability to labor. The most degraded, filthiest creature, either morally or physically, was not so lowly fallen that this brave woman believed in its utter loss to the good and true: there was always some gleam of cleanliness that bade her strive to win and hold the suffering being, and her happiness was supreme when the day arrived upon which she could announce the beginning of better living and doing among any of her forlorn subjects through their own exertions.

When the work of the nursery became a recognized good, evening classes were formed for boys, some of them verging upon manhood. The same indefatigable teacher-worker threw brightness across the boys' lives by giving a cheery welcome to all, whether ragged, or whole, if they but strove towards bodily and moral cleanliness, and, through interesting talks upon subjects calculated to attract such neglected humans, and story telling or reading, picture study and games, these unfortunates were led into an understanding of life, and gained a self-respect, which broadened into the best results possible. All unsuspected some tiny seed found a resting place in the boys' hearts, afford-

ing, though often long, long afterward, the basis of some troublesome moral self-decision.

Meanwhile, as the work prospered, the little house had become too small, and it seemed advisable to add another attempt to the many fruitless ones to obtain the old Mansion house. There was a strong struggle again of right against wrong, for the holder of the place was making gain out of others' misery, and with the ease attendant upon such making rebellied against retreat and consequent loss. But right conquered and the new home was soon ready for the throng at the little house.

This great house, with its wide, long halls and big rooms on either side, made an almost ideal home for the little folks, and has continued to shelter year after year a host of poor children, whose well-being is never lost sight of. The teacher-friend and life at the little house belong

to the past; but the work of the great house continues as in years long passed. On pleasant afternoons the many verandas and tree-shaded yard are the scene of delightful child-life, guarded by the matron and such attendants as do not belong to the kindergarten proper.

It is not possible to refrain from wishing that this splendid work should grow and spread until *all*—rather than a *few*—districts of Boston, where poor humanity lives in huddled discomfort, could claim a safe day shelter for the many, many little children, who now wander about the streets, loiter in alleys and stables, or roll in foulsome gutters about their abiding places. From good authority comes the report that kindergartens are crowded and many, many children consequently refused admission, and the thought arises, Is not now the time to repeat in certain localities the history of the little house of Albany street at the Highlands?

NURSING AS A PROFESSION FOR WOMEN.

HELENA PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, third daughter of Queen Victoria, has given to the *Woman's World* a very practical article on this subject. Before and since her marriage she has honorably distinguished herself by practical work in the nursing of the sick, and she has always taken great interest in schemes for the promotion of scientific nursing. She, herself, as she tells us, has had more to do with the practical working of nursing the sick than generally falls to the lot of an outsider. Her paper makes a short review of the history of the subject, quoting principally from Dr. Sophia Jex Blake's "Medical Women." That exhaustive work of Dr. Blake takes us back to the very earliest classical times for the history of "Medical Women." In the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* reference is made to Aga-

mede, a woman skilled in medicine. In France, so early as 1311, a document forbids "surgeons and *female* surgeons to practice if they had failed to pass a satisfactory examination before the proper authorities." This document is at least negative evidence of woman's practice in medical science. But in England we are told that in King John's time (1352) women had full legal authority to practice the medical art. After a brief survey of the history of the subject in the Middle ages she comes to the just conclusion that "in early times women took a much higher stand and position in nursing and medicine than has been given to them till within the last few years."

"Now," she says, "the tide has turned in their favor, and the chance is offered them of recovering that which was

great passed, verandas of de- matron to the wish- d grow few— manity I claim many about oles, or air abid- comes crowded quently arises, certain house of e. In ant for- sions to sat- proper at least practice and we 1352) prac- f sur- in the in- clude- took a nur- en to turn- offer- was formerly their undisputed right." She then reverts to Florence Nightingale's grand work in the Crimea, nursing the poor, neglected soldiers, under the most stupendous difficulties from the red-tape system of military circles at home and at the seat of war, " crowning her devotion at Scutari by giving up the whole of the fund of £50,000, subscribed by a grateful nation on her return, to found a training school for nurses in England." Princess Christian says that nursing has become what it is now entirely by the force of Miss Nightingale's example. Previous to Miss Nightingale's work in the East, it was deemed impossible that ladies could or would do the work of nursing the sick properly. " The old-fashioned nurses, under whom they had at first to work, and by whom they had to be trained, did their utmost to prejudice the doctors against them, and to oust them by every means in their power." She then goes on to speak of the noble work inaugurated by Lady Roberts in India. "Lady Roberts," she says, " felt strongly, from personal experience, the serious evil caused by the absence of skilled nursing in the military hospitals in India."

"A military doctor," writes Lady Roberts, " has assured me that almost every medical officer in this country (India) must be able to call to mind numerous instances where men's lives might have been saved had careful nursing been available; and many of them keenly deplore deaths which might have been averted had competent nurses been at hand."

She then speaks of Lady Dufferin's scheme, which is entirely distinct from that of Lady Roberts. Lady Dufferin's scheme is for providing women as doctors and nurses to go among the native women in India. " The importance of this movement," she says, " cannot be overrated, inasmuch as these poor women, whose religion and caste precluded them from ordinary medical attendance, perished constantly from want of it.

Now, women trained in medicine, and the highest branches of nursing, will be at hand to help them when needed."

Returning to the history of nursing in England, the princess speaks first of the Training School for Nurses in Liverpool, " in which the scheme for district nursing among the sick poor was first started and organized." This gave rise to the Metropolitan National Nursing Association inaugurated by Miss Florence Lees (now Mrs. Dane Craven). This association, we are told, has various branches in London, and its lead has been followed in several large towns. In Liverpool also, in 1865, Miss Agnes Jones undertook the task of substituting trained nurses for the untrained pauper women who had previously done the work of nursing in the great Liverpool Infirmary. Hers was the initiatory step to the adoption of an entirely different system of nursing in all the work-houses throughout the United Kingdom.

The princess concludes her summary of the history of nursing with honorable mention of the modern religious communities and sisterhoods which have also taken up nursing as a profession, such as the "House of St. Margaret," East Pimstead, and "All Saints Sisterhood," who nurse in University College, and others, under whose efficient care many hospitals are glad to place their patients. Although, as she says, at the beginning of her mother's reign there was little or no scientific training, and that even so late as 1850 the only nurses available were those known as "Mrs. Fry's," at the institution she founded in Devonshire square, there are now in England many thousands of fully trained, competent nurses. Yet, with all this advance, it is to be regretted that "England should be the only European country in which there is no recognized system of regulation for the proper training and registration of midwives." Very many persons who have not turned their attention to the subject will be surprised

to learn that "from seventy to ninety per cent of the births annually registered in Great Britain are attended by women only." "It is only those who work among the poor and who have the opportunities of seeing the incalculable mischief wrought to the health and lives of thousands of our working women by the ignorance of so many midwives, who attend them in childbirth in their own homes, who can fully realize the extent of this mischief."

Princess Christian passes on to explain what the training of nursing as a profession really means; and here her woman's heart speaks out eloquently on behalf of those who are engaged in the arduous task of training for nursing. "It means years of hard work and self-denial. Theoretical knowledge may be acquired more or less quickly, according to the capacity of the pupil or the skill of the lecturer; but actual proficiency in practical nursing can come from experience alone. Those trained in the Nightingale Home at St. Thomas's, though they may be promoted in a shorter time, are nevertheless kept under supervision, and are not allowed to accept any appointment without permission." "A probationer's training," adds the same sympathetic pen, "means three years of hard work, actually fatiguing bodily labors, and often great anxiety; at work for fourteen hours a day, and sometimes more, with only a few hours leave during the week, living under strict rules, and expected to obey a rigid discipline. The general public has little or no idea how hard our hospital nurses are expected to work, and yet they do it cheerfully, nay, merrily, thoroughly enjoying their hard-earned hours of recreation, and while in the wards often helping the sad and suffering patients with their unflagging spirits and never-failing sympathy. Yet many of these women have no money and but few friends; even promotion to the post of Sister of a ward in the larger hospitals

does not enable them to save enough to live on in the case of illness or old age. There are so many candidates for such posts that many nurses, when their training is over—ladies by birth and education—go on for years as staff nurses on little more than £20 a year, working, as described above, using up their health and strength for sheer love of nursing, on less wages than an upper housemaid can earn. These are the women that require help." "Nursing," she concludes, "is a science, an art and a gift; one essentially a woman's province. . . . There must be that quick perception and independent judgment for which there is no other word than intuitive perception." In place of the Sairey Gamps and Betsy Priggs of forty years ago, we are now having women of culture and refinement, of high education and social position. Such women as these are rapidly coming to the front, eager to learn, to teach and to carry on woman's highest, noblest work, that of soothing the suffering and tending the sick.

Princess Helena closes her paper with an earnest appeal on behalf of the new "British Nurses' Association," a scheme in which she says, "I take the deepest and warmest interest." It was brought before the public in St. George's Hall, February 13th. There are about 15,000 women engaged in nursing in Great Britain, all so disunited as to be utterly unable to help each other. This scheme is founded on the same principle which governs all trades and professions which have found out the truth of the saying that "union is strength." The object, therefore, of the association is to unite and bind all nurses together for mutual help and protection, and for the general advancement of their common profession and at the same time to afford all the opportunity of rising in their profession by merit alone. Under powers conferred by a charter of incorporation, this association will form a register for nurses, upon which the names of

those who have proved by examination that they are practical nurses will be placed. The aims and aspirations of this new association in which the Princess takes such deep interest are so well put in her own paper that we cannot do better than quote her words:

"Of course those qualities so essential to a nurse, viz., patience, gentleness, tact, tenderness, delicacy of mind, and firmness of manner, can never be tested by examinations; but certainly no nurse will be placed on the register who cannot produce proofs of irreproachable character during the time of her probation.

"Many women who make most admirable nurses cannot teach others, nor grasp the deeper meaning of their work. They can obey perfectly, but they are quite unfitted, both by nature and education, to command. It will, therefore, in all probability, be the aim of this association to make the first examination, to secure registration, purely practical.

"It will be most useful for those nurses who desire to rise in their profession, and hold the honorable and responsible posts of sisters and lady superintendents in hospitals, that they should have the opportunity of showing that they possess knowledge of the theory of nursing, and of hospital and ward management and organization. The advanced and higher examination might be called the 'Honors Examination,' and medals and certificates

would be given to those who distinguish themselves. This will tend, not only to encourage individual emulation in learning, but also would put before all nurses a high standard of efficiency. It is needless to enlarge upon the benefits which would accrue to the public and to the medical profession from such an association. For the nurses, too, it will be of incalculable service. There are many women among them who have no private means and few friends.

"The association might in time found and maintain a convalescent home, to which nurses might be sent when recovering from illness, where they would not have to conform to strict rules, but where they would find a real home, good nursing, good food and fresh air. A holiday house would be a valuable addition for those nurses who have no home of their own. Another important point which the association hope to see carried out is, sick pay for those temporarily, and pension and annuity funds for those permanently, incapacitated from further work. These would be organized on a sound financial footing." Surely we may all be deeply grateful to this truly royal lady for her deep interest in such a noble work for the benefit of those women who, when "pain and anguish wring the brow," are truly ministering angels to those of us who have been privileged to partake of their loving, tender service in hospitals and in our own homes.

No man is held upright simply by the strength of his own roots; his branches interlock with those of other men, and thus society is formed, with all its laws and customs and force of public opinion. Few men appreciate the extent to which they are indebted to their surroundings for the strength with which they resist, or do, or suffer. All this strength the emigrant leaves behind him. He is isolated in a strange land, perhaps doubly so by reason of a strange speech. He is transplanted from a forest to an open prairie, where, before he is rooted, he is smitten with the blasts of temptation.—*Our Country.*

STATE SOCIALISM.

BY C. W. ERNST.

[From the *Boston Beacon*.]

As early as 1881, and again in 1883, the late Emperor called attention to public measures for the benefit of workingmen in two messages addressed to the German parliament. The Emperor was firmly persuaded that punitive justice is not a remedy for the discontent of wage-earners. Accordingly he resolved to improve the lot of the poor, and to obtain their confidence in the government and in the state of which they form an essential part. It appears that in this policy the Emperor was far in advance of Prince Bismarck and the representatives of the German people, the former preferring drastic measures, while the members of parliament were afraid of state socialism.

Many American readers will remember Prince Bismarck's attempt to make the tobacco business in Germany a government monopoly, hoping that it would yield a net revenue of some \$40,000,000. This sum was to be used in relieving the poor, partly by the reduction of taxes, partly for insurance purposes. The representatives of the people rejected the plan. Later on, and again for the sole purpose of relieving the poor, the government tried to secure a monopoly of the distilled-liquor business, expecting that it would yield a net revenue of about \$75,000,000 a year. The idea of the bill was perfectly plain, but it was rejected by the representatives of the people. The Emperor's object was to relieve the poor; Prince Bismarck had to find the means; but parliament felt averse. With some reluctance, however, some laws were passed that met the Emperor's wishes. In 1883 a law provided for the compulsory insurance of factory operatives against cases of illness; in 1884 the principle of compulsory insurance against accidents

was adopted. Later on these principles were extended from the factories to the transportation business and to mining, and are to include most agricultural branches. In other words, precisely as every German is obliged to go to school and to serve in the army, so he is compelled to take certain precautionary measures for his economic independence or the avoidance of pauperism.

This whole insurance business is managed, directly or indirectly, by the government. Employers are obliged to bear a part of the burden; wage-earners have to contribute up to three per cent of their pay; and the state guarantees the result, payments in cases of illness or death being made by the post-offices. In a case of illness the wage-earner receives fifty per cent of his usual earnings; in a case of permanent disability two-thirds; in a case of death the widow receives twenty per cent of her husband's wages, and each child fifteen per cent of the previous earnings. Employers contribute half as much as their operatives toward insurance against illness. The accident insurance fund is made up by employers with the aid of the government. It is intended also to provide for wage earners who are too old to continue at work. The entire system is not yet perfected, mainly for want of funds on the part of the government. But so far it has worked well. Private insurance has lost ground, and the number of insured wage-earners has become very large. The opponents of the novel system brand it as "state socialism"; Prince Bismarck calls it "practical Christianity," and affirms that no wage-earners in all Europe are as well cared for by the state as are those of Germany.

The German experiment receives much

attention, particularly in France, Italy, and Austria. The Austrian government has already declared its readiness to act on the German precedent. Students who wish to look farther into the subject should begin with E. von Woedtke's accounts which contain the German laws with good explanations. The question whether the Emperor William has introduced state socialism or not is largely verbal. If socialism be the relief of the poor, the system is socialist. If socialism be the illegitimate taxation of the rich for the

benefit of the poor, the German system is not socialism. The main point is that Germany has broken with the idea that social life is simply a struggle for existence in which the strong survive, while the weak must suffer or perish. Germany has broken also with the idea that every man must live for himself alone. It treats the wage-earner as a part of the social system which will support him in his distress, and invites him, when well, to contribute reasonably to the economic and moral strength of society.

MISS WATSON.

BY E. S. BULFINCH.

THE return of spring recalls to the members of our First Parish in Cambridge one who left us in the heat of last summer, whose name is especially identified with this Easter season when I write, the season of gladness and the promise of springing flowers. Her girlish figure and blue veil will be missed this year from the rocky hills of Belmont and Waverly Oaks, where, so often as the season returned, when skies were soft and birds called to each other in the still leafless trees, she has searched through the haunts of the violet and anemone to see "the same dear things lift up the same fair faces." Throughout the year our church was made beautiful by her skillful hands. Beginning with the earliest arbutus from the Plymouth woods, through all the long procession of blood-root, violets, wild vines and tender little ferns, pond-lilies, which always caused some anxiety lest the sun should not shine early to open the buds on Sunday morning, garden roses and the rich summer flowers, with chrysanthemums, and branches of gorgeous autumn leaves, hemlock and ground pine for Christmas, and the wealth of "Harvest Sunday," all had their turn, and were lovingly arranged before the familiar pulpit. The ministries that

sprang from this centre were so varied and far reaching that, while the name of Julia Watson is still fresh in the memory of her friends, it is interesting to dwell on her work, and note some of its characteristics. It was truly a "Lend-a-Hand" mission, starting with her earliest years, from a love of flowers, a merry heart, and a readiness to give pleasure. It was aided by her natural gifts of grace and beauty and quick perceptions, and it came to be the constant occupation of her life, filling every day with works of many kinds, for the service of the sick, the poor, the aged and the young, the neglected and the stranger, all those who in any way were in need of a helping hand. However solitary was her position, she was never alone, and with little of her own she made many rich.

Miss Watson's great work was doubtless the Cambridge Flower Mission, which for so many years has distributed flowers, fruits and jellies to the Massachusetts General Hospital, and various other institutions, large work-rooms, etc., in Boston. Those who were her assistants in this mission can better tell than I the incidents with which those years of hospital visiting abounded.

Many opportunities arose in this way

for assisting convalescent patients when they left the hospital. There were the two cripples who set up a little lobster shop, with the help of the ladies, at the end of one of the long bridges leading into Boston, and who received a call from their Flower Mission friends, when Thanksgiving came round, with the turkey and plum-pudding they had cooked for them. Miss Watson always brought home stories from her hospital days, often pathetic and sometimes funny, and her readiness of resource and quick decision, as well as nerve to bear unusual or trying scenes, were further developed by her experiences there. The choir, which she organized to sing for the patients on Sunday afternoons, was one of several outgrowths of the mission work, and one which drew forth many expressions of gratitude.

The Flower Mission, however, was but the beginning, the foundation, as it were, of her wide sphere of usefulness. Circumstances favored her meeting all sorts of people, and she was most skillful in discovering how she could serve each one, and showing just what help each could extend to the other. While she was made the almoner of various friends and became known throughout the poorer quarters of the city and in many a forlorn home on "the Marsh," she did as true a service for the rich and those beyond want. She always knew just what they could do to help, and could make use of their efforts, however small. To those of slender health and abilities she was especially encouraging, making them feel that their little aid went a great way, as they saw the fine result which she knew so well how to bring out. In the same way she could use all sorts of things that were given her. If you had anything to give away, no matter what, Miss Watson could tell you the right use to make of it. The roll of canton flannel pieces was just the thing for the seamstress, who made rabbits and elephants in her evenings at home, and when some one sent a half-

barrel of old hats, Miss Watson saw next day some invalids all ready for them, sitting out in the hot sun with nothing but newspapers on their heads. Her wonderful quickness and practical good sense soon made her appealed to for advice on every conceivable occasion, often much to her own astonishment. "Ask Miss Watson," was the usual answer to any one who needed help or information on any subject. If she could not give it herself, she could put you in the way to get it. And fortunate indeed was the person who secured her co-operation, for she seemed *never to forget*, never to leave a thing till it was done, and never to grow tired of a cause to which she had once given her heart.

Miss Watson was so entertaining to children that she easily won their help, and she was fond of associating them with her in any good work, and making them accustomed to thinking and doing for others. It was her idea to have large baskets placed in the different school-houses, to be filled with flowers by the scholars, either from their little gardens at home or the daisies and buttercups in the fields, for the Monday's distribution; and she often had two or three children waiting upon her while at work, sometimes calling them by *number* to amuse them. "Come, number three, where is that string?" "Number two, here are some pansies for you to put in water." To make children happy was as easy to her as it was delightful, and the frosted cake for "Mikey," with its three little white birds, was but one of her numerous devices for bringing smiles to boyish faces. When they were old enough she would take them to drive her out into the country on her long excursions for wild flowers, to help carry baskets and be generally useful, entertaining them all the way, and as on these occasions it was her habit to take along any one who needed an outing, Miss Watson's "rides" became quite well known, and possessed a unique character of their own, somewhat

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miscellaneous in their company, but always good-natured and merry.

Christmas brought her every year more work, and her friends began to prepare their contributions for her "poor tree," in Boston, months beforehand. There was also the church to trim, gifts for the hospital to provide, and every year more people to be looked after. I remember that late one Christmas eve, when the chimes were about to ring for midnight, she set herself, after a most fatiguing day, to dress an "extra" tree, which some one had given her, setting it up in her own rooms, with much fun and frolic, and making it as pretty as possible with the broken remnants of her treasures, for a large family of poor children. She went for them early Christmas day, piled them all into a hack and brought them home with her, a delighted company.

Her day often included the most various duties. Though apparently frail she had great power of endurance and strength of will, and could pass from one scene to another, no matter how different, with the same serenity. As she was much in demand to arrange flowers for weddings and funerals, and gladly gave her time to her friends, she would often have both duties on her hands at once. Every one was sure things would go right if Miss Watson would only help, or merely give suggestions as to how to manage. Sometimes she would be found sitting by the bedside of the dying, taking down messages for absent friends, and perhaps after a long day of activity she could steal a moment at dusk for a call on some old woman, who eagerly answered the well-known tap at the cottage window, all ready to welcome her bright visitor. So dependent were these feeble ones, these "dim and faded human beings," upon her radiant courage and energy, so confident in her power to do everything, that there must be many who feel "more home-like seems the vast unknown" for her having entered within its shadow. Like other people who are constantly giving out

what they receive, Miss Watson came to believe that there was more than an accidental connection between the thing given to her and the demand made upon her for it. An experience several years ago at the Massachusetts General Hospital had impressed her deeply. She was asked by a nurse to speak with a woman whose troubled and rebellious state of mind was a serious drawback to her recovery. Miss Watson talked with the poor unhappy creature, and a new thought came to her, which she explained to the sufferer, who grew quite calm and listened with much attention. On her next visit she heard that the patient was improving, and in conversation with her learned that her words had struck the right chord; they had fitted in to some circumstances of home life, unknown to Miss Watson, which had given them the force of conviction. Instances often occurred to justify her faith that, if anything seemed right to do, the requisite means and ability would be provided, even if she could hardly see a step before her, and in this faith she rested more and more.

Perhaps Miss Watson was least successful in dealing with the lowest or pauper class, but that is the hardest problem to all philanthropists. She was too loyal to them to readily admit their faults, and this unwillingness to recognize existing conditions prevented her results from being as satisfactory as with her devotion and labor in their cause they should have been. Love and admiration these unfortunates often showed in abundance, but very little permanent improvement. The fruits of her work will live longest in the hearts of both old and young to whom she showed the way to a more beautiful life. Half troubled by differing beliefs, she felt that she had neither time nor inclination to look into such matters, but said to a friend, "My creed is simple. I only want to make everybody as happy as I can." In this spirit she lived, and throwing off all care she met the opportunities of each day with a child-like trust.

Ten Times One.

"Look up and not down:—
Look forward and not back:—
Look out and not in,
And Lend a Hand."

Mr. Editor:

In answer to the request for suggestions for work for boys' clubs, perhaps the following may be of use:

The scrap-books so often made seem always picture-books. If they could be made of newspaper and other clippings, nice stories, helpful advice, little poems, etc., they would be a most welcome addition to the scant supply of books of many negro and Indian school graduates, especially those who teach. These graduates often have no books. Our papers abound with good articles which would interest them. If some of the Lend a Hand clubs would make collections of these and paste them neatly in old copy-books, covering all the written pages, strengthening the covers with muslin, and then mail them to these graduates, they would give great pleasure and have plenty of work. If they could put in an occasional picture as an illustration (a dog over a story about a dog, for instance) so much the better.

Then the little country schools of negro children are most grateful for any children's books and will often pay a cent for a week's use of one, the teacher sending the money to some friend, who will buy another book for the "library" with these fees. Let a club open correspondence with such a school, send a book, comment a little on the stories to interest the children, promise that if they will use the book carefully, keep it clean and pay one cent each for the use of it, and the teacher will collect the fees and forward them in postage stamps, then the club will send them more books. That club will have no lack of work.

Of course, any nice books are useful, new, old, or scrap-books; but if old let them be well pasted up before sending. They teach the children to use books, to be neat, to pay little debts, and, not least, such gifts put them in communication with the work outside of their little villages.

If the club boys will write monthly letters to those teachers, there is another broad field. They could tell these little country children about their native towns; New York boys, about the harbor and the great ships that come in from all parts of the world; Philadelphia boys, about the State House and what was done there to make it famous, about the Treaty Elm and William Penn and the United States Mint; Boston boys, about Faneuil Hall, the Common, etc., or anything that interests them.

The gratitude of the teachers of these schools, who often feel lonely and have little to interest the children, and of the little boys and girls who have so few pleasures, would make the club boys feel that good books were too precious to be wasted in unused book-cases and that city advantages ought to be shared.

Then there are the Indian boys and girls, who go back to such hard lives when they leave school, and who could return the club letters with such lively letters about life in the woods and on the prairies and, sometimes, about such brave deeds in standing up for truth and goodness when it was so hard not to yield.

O how much cheer and help the club boys and girls can give if they begin in real earnest. Will not some of them try these plans? There is plenty of work.

CAUTION.—Let the club be careful to select only good, wholesome stories and never to cut them out of books or papers that might be sent whole. S. N.

THE KING'S DAUGHTER.

BY MISS R. S. PALFREY, NOW MRS. UTTER.

[From the *Christmas Locket* of 1870.]

SHE wears no jewels upon hand or brow;
No badge by which she may be known of men;
But, tho' she walk in plain attire now,
She is a daughter of a king, and when
Her father calls her at his throne to wait
She will be clothed as doth befit her state.

Her father sent her in his land to dwell,
Giving to her a work that must be done;
And since the king loves all his people well,
Therefore she, too, cares for them, every one.
Thus when she stoops to lift from want and sin
The brighter shines her royalty therein.

She walks erect thro' dangers manifold
While many sink and fall on either hand.
She heeds not summer's heat nor winter's cold,
For both are subject to the king's command;
She need not be afraid of anything
Because she is a daughter of the king!

Even where the angel comes that men call Death—
And name with terror—it appalls not her;
She turns to look at him with quickened breath,
Thinking "It is the royal messenger!"
Her heart rejoices that her father calls
Her back to live within the palace walls.

For tho' the land she dwells in is most fair,
Set round with streams, like picture in its frame,
Yet often in her heart deep longings are
For that "imperial palace whence she came":
Not perfect quite seems any earthly thing,
Because she is a daughter of the king!

IN HIS NAME.

THE following article we copy from *In His Name*, published by the Christian Endeavor Publishing Company, Westfield, N. Y.

"To do a thing in the name of another is *to do it by his command and authority, acting on his behalf, promoting his cause.*" To do a thing in the name of Christ, then, is to do it because we think He has commanded it; because we realize that His work in the world must be done through us; and because we believe that the thing we are trying to do will help forward His cause and make His kingdom come the sooner.

Hoping that all this may be true of our new undertaking, we venture to send out our monthly messenger with the title *In His Name*. If it is not sent out on His behalf, and if it does not help His cause, it has no excuse for being. But how is it to do this?

First, by representing the interests of our own community of believers—the "First Presbyterian Church of Westfield, N. Y." We hope from month to month to give here a faithful and complete record of work done in all departments; to show where we have failed and where succeeded; to present new plans for work, or old plans for new work; to urge on the lagging, and encourage those who are foremost; in short, to make this such a mirror that it will be impossible for us to go our way and forget what manner of church we are.

But there is a deeper significance than this in our title. A name, when it is not a mere label, stands for the person himself; it expresses his *nature*. Christ's "Name" is His nature—what He is. "In His Name" is, "in His nature;" that is, in His temper and spirit, with His aims and in His way.

And what is that nature? Love, not

hate; unity, not division; absolute surrender of self, and perfect devotion to the will of the Father; a spirit of obedience that will give up life itself rather than be a "weapon of unrighteousness" in thought, word or deed; and a love for everything that makes one a willing servant to all in need. This is what we mean when we name the Name of Jesus Christ. Dare we say that our church has this nature in her and can call herself by this name? No. But we can and do say that she has *the will* to do this, and, however imperfectly, is yet honestly trying to show men the nature of Christ.

And because that nature is broad as humanity, and touches man at every point of his being and has to do with every aspect of his life: therefore this church is striving to touch and influence men not only on Sundays with prayers and hymns and sermons, but seven days in the week, with every influence, social, intellectual, physical, spiritual, which can make society purer and nobler, and the world a better place to live in.

So our paper, as representing the aim and spirit of our church, will not confine itself to so-called "religious work." "Religion" may be for a part of man's nature, time, and interests; Christianity is for the whole of them.

We come to you, then, not in the name of any sect, or party, or *ism*; not in our own name, or the name of "our church"; but in the name of all goodness, and righteousness, and helpfulness between man and man; in His Name Who loved His Father and loved His brethren with a perfect love, and Who alone can make that love live and grow in us:—in the Name which is above every name—the Name of Jesus Christ, Who is Lord and Master of all men.

WESTFIELD, N. Y.

THE Christian Endeavor Publishing Company of Westfield has issued the first number of a monthly publication called "In His Name." We have already copied an article from it in this department, and we desire to call attention to the paper itself.

When we say it is alive, we do not mean that it is simply newsy and bright. We mean that it is alive with the Life from on high. It deals with many serious subjects, but with the firm, candid

and yet gentle way that characterizes that Life.

The editor, Rev. Wm. F. Faber defines Dr. Hale's phrase "In His Name" as the "idea of a Christly temper in daily life and in the secular world, a doing of all manner of things, commonly esteemed quite non-religious, in the spirit of Jesus, In His Name."

This is the key-note of the whole paper and we commend it to earnest thinkers and doers also.

REPORTS OF TEN TIMES ONE CLUBS, ETC.

NORRISTOWN, PA.

State Hospital for the Insane.

LET me tell you how it all began. In October, I promised to get some work done for a Fair for the benefit of the Woman's Hospital, and one day when I was particularly busy a large bundle came with short time (as I then thought) in which to do it. Almost in despair, I asked a number of patients not much engaged to meet in my parlor that afternoon. Sixteen responded and were very much interested. The work was begun, taken home to finish, and at the end of the week twenty-six children's dresses were neatly made, all hand sewing.

It was then the idea came to me to organize all these idle but capable hands in a way that would benefit themselves and others. The following week, I called a meeting and effected a simple organization. I did not at that time understand fully the spirit and methods of Mr. Hale's clubs, nor did I get the name wholly from him, but I hope to be counted as one of you and that our work may be widened.

Our simple constitution says our aim shall be "to help in any work we find to do, according to our power."

I am the president and make it a point always to be at the meetings. We meet weekly, taking turns in the different wards, thus bringing the social pleasure home to many who would otherwise miss it. Any one who comes and joins in the work of the club is a member for that meeting and entitled to all privileges. I am now thinking of having a more fixed membership in order to make them feel individual responsibility more.

From two o'clock to about five o'clock we do some serious work; then tea is passed round, and from half past six to eight o'clock we have some sort of literary entertainment in which the patients take part with great pleasure. Once a month we meet in the Chapel and have some larger entertainment to which all the patients are invited.

Our work has been largely sewing and for some part of the hospital. First, we made white ruffled pillow covers, making the beds much neater. Over 500 of them

(347)

have been made (by hand), 170 aprons cut and made, 500 towels hemmed, 100 counterpanes, etc., etc.; eight dolls were dressed for the Christmas tree, six screens covered and two pairs of chintz vases made for the infirmary, besides table-scarfs, tidies, etc.

Our capacity for work is so great that I am afraid of having nothing to do, and we shall gladly sew for some one who needs help. I am going to try to get something to do for the visiting District Nurses and the Children's Aid Society. Our work has been narrowed by our opportunities and not by our desires.

Of the unexpected development of my little beginning and the benefits accruing to the patients I cannot speak too warmly. It has been a revelation to me and I am watching it with interest. If you could come in to see one of our club meetings and see and feel the social, homelike atmosphere which prevails on that afternoon, you would not imagine that you were in an insane asylum. Friends sometimes visit us and we encourage it. The attendance may be anywhere from 75 to 150.

I appoint such committees as are needed, trying to include some patients. There is a committee who has charge of cutting out work, one on supper, one on entertainment, and a journalist who gives a summary of the news of the week, quite a little newspaper in itself.

Some off-shoots from the parent stem are the Dickens Reading Circle, Travelling Club, Sunday-school, and especially I must mention the Lend a Hand Book Club. Five cent subscriptions are collected monthly and all the leading periodicals are bought. After circulating among subscribers, they go to the library.

COVELO, CAL.

Our readers will remember Miss White's appeal for the Indians of the Round Valley Reservation, Covelo, Cal., in LEND A HAND of November last. We

publish below a communication from her to the Lend a Hand clubs, and we also make a short extract from her letter which will be of interest. In November she told us what we could do for the Indians. Perhaps some of our readers can now suggest through the columns of LEND A HAND what the Indians can do for us.

"The Lend a Hand clubs were very kind. There were four that responded, besides several individuals. Some of the packages and boxes were sent by express and, as we are shut away from even an express office in winter, they were not received till a few weeks ago. However, we have a goodly supply towards our stock of presents for next Christmas. It seems as if everything mentioned in my letter to the LEND A HAND magazine was sent, even to the candy.

"I shall talk to the children about a Lend a Hand club. We have a children's meeting every week that we could turn into some kind of a club. I have been thinking of it, but didn't see just what was best. If you could only suggest something for them to do, it would help. Of course, there is much they can do here, but something outside would perhaps be better. The Indians have always been helped so much, that they need to learn to help others."

To the kind friends who so generously responded to my appeal in the November LEND A HAND, I would say a word of thanks. To each one whose address came I sent individually a few words, but there were several to whom I can only speak through the columns of LEND A HAND.

Those who have never lived in an "out of the way" place can in no sense realize what it is to live in Round Valley, and these Indian children have never lived elsewhere, and many of them have never been outside the valley in their lives. They have seen nothing of the outside world save what has drifted in to them

from time to time. To these children and many of the older ones the contents of these Christmas boxes and packages are indeed a revelation. Before we came, they had had a Christmas tree with *apples* and *shawls* for fruit! The shawls came from the *reservation* stores and the apples from the *reservation* orchards.

They never before knew what it was to have anything sent to them and it was hard, for a long time, for them to realize that there were people in the east who would give them a thought, and then the Christmas trees, glistening with toys—laden with presents of all kinds, till the branches were unable to hold them all, and the overflow lay at the foot of the tree piled up on the floor (muslin, flannel, calico and dresses)—was a sight calculated to gladden their eyes.

The large room was crowded. There was not standing room for one more, yet there were few who were not remembered. All who had been to Sunday-school even once had something given to them, if only a Christmas card, while the two girls who attended the best had dresses, and the one boy who was present the greatest number of times was presented with a coat.

If the donors could only have been here.

The children sang and recited singly and in concert, and all went home happy and pleased.

We see every day something that brings back that festive night, a ribbon, a toy or an article of dress, and thus they are reminded of the love that spreads from ocean to ocean, till even to these of another race is lent the helping hand.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

OUR club is composed of the girls of my class in the Mission-school. They are girls of fifteen or sixteen years of age and the club consists of nine members. We have been in existence not far from a year. Our collective work has consisted

in hemming some sheets and pillow-cases for a hospital, in working for a Sunday-school fair and in dressing a doll, whose destination is as yet not decided upon. The girls have done the sewing while I have read to them. Our meetings are held generally once a fortnight at my house. We shall try to have more to tell you one of these days.

WESTFIELD, MASS.

THE parlor sale held by the Ten Times One Club in December netted \$70.00 for their treasury and thus they have completed the publishing of the book, "Kapas Fel" Bible stories and have a good beginning left for their new work in 1888.

WAYSIDE BOYS' CLUB, N. Y.

ON March 16, 1887, several ladies met together, their object being the organization of a club for boys, in connection with, and under the auspices of, the Wayside Day Nursery.

Between that date and the end of May, eight preliminary meetings were held at which the plans for the club were brought into definite shape. The objects of the club are:

1st. To provide a place where boys can meet socially, and find interesting reading matter, games, etc., with bright, cheerful surroundings, which shall serve as counter attractions to the streets.

2d. In due time to interest the boys in other objects beyond the mere enjoyment of the club, and to occupy part of their time in work which shall be of benefit and instruction to them and help bring pleasure to others.

A room has been rented in the Wayside Day Nursery building, and has been painted and fitted up as attractively as was possible with the means at command. A bookcase made for the circulating library, and the books covered, marked, and catalogued, a few pictures and open fire add brightness and cheeriness. Boys

are eligible for membership between the ages of eight and sixteen years, and must pay dues of two cents a week, or five cents a month.

Their homes will be visited, and all the sanitary precautions taken that are necessary. We are greatly indebted to Dr. H. G. Klotz, who has most kindly consented to examine the boys before they come to the club. Also to Mrs. Walcot, the matron, for her hearty co-operation. The room will be open at present two afternoons a week—Mondays and Thursdays—from 3:30 to 5 p. m., and two members of the committee will be present at each meeting. It is with sincere sorrow and regret that we record the loss of one of our earliest members, whose untimely death, last summer, has deprived our committee of one of its most earnest and efficient workers, and the enforced departure for the South has also rendered vacant our secretary's chair.

The running expenses of the club will be about ten dollars (\$10) a month, including rent, for which amount we earnestly ask subscriptions, as well as donations of books, magazines, games, etc., or any chairs, tables, or pictures for the club room. Through the kindness of friends, a large number of books, games, etc., have already been received; also articles of furniture, and some donations of money, for all of which we most heartily thank the donors, and trust that the interest already shown will extend itself in the future, as we are entirely dependent on outside aid for the continuance of our work.

DELAWARE, OHIO.

In a letter recently received from the Ohio Wesleyan University, our correspondent sends us the names of the "Tens." We are glad to give them to our readers and know they will be gratefully received. The names, too, may suggest the very work that some of the "Tens" are looking for.

Lend a Hand, Royal Workers, Charity Ten, Good Samaritan, Educational Ten, Dorcas Sisters, Thoughtful Ten, Watchful Ten, Odds and Ends, Ramona Ten.

The "Royal Workers" has for its leader a Chinese girl who is active in her work and hopes to establish "Tens" when she returns to her own home.

AUBURNDALE, MASS.

I AM happy to report that a "Ten" has been successfully organized here. They have chosen for their motto, "A soft answer turneth away wrath." They have decided to elect a president and chairman each meeting. They have chosen to work for children and are going right to work to make scrap-books for children in the hospitals, and are also making a scrap-book for the inmates of Maternity Cottage in the N. E. Hospital.

DAVENPORT, IOWA.

The Davenport "Tens" are so active that there is something new there every month.

Ten No. 1 of the Lend a Hand Club has celebrated the anniversary of its organization. In order to fitly commemorate the occasion they invited the King's Daughters, who organized them, Ten No. 10, who were originally of their membership, and a few friends to join with them. After a Lend a Hand song by both Tens the secretary read her report, and the President of No. 10 read a report of the organization and work of her "Ten."

After music and recitation the president of No. 1 read the annual address, giving a brief sketch of the organization, which began one year ago in an evening pleasantly spent by seven girls on invitation from one of the King's Daughters. The decision later to form a society; the search for a suitable name which would be satisfactory to all; the work of the Ten for the general advancement of the club; their own instruction in domestic work, sewing, English and German, cash

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accounts, etc.; their resolution to save their wages and the starting of their personal bank accounts; the withdrawal of part of their members to form No. 10, etc., were all passed in review. The president of the King's Daughters being called upon congratulated them on the completion of the year's work and wished them many happy returns of the day.

After some remarks from members, the president of No. 10 happily alluded to the birthday in the family and the delight with which the children planned a gift to the mother. As No. 10 stood in that relation to No. 1, it took pleasure in presenting a gavel as a birthday remembrance. The surprise was complete.

After simple refreshments the rest of the evening was spent informally, and on leaving, all joined in wishing long life to the Lend a Hand Club and to each of its associate Tens.

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

I WILL tell you something of the history of the Boys' Mission Circle of the South Congregational Church of this city.

The club was organized about three years ago with seven members. They met every other Saturday at the boys' houses. Now we meet on the first and third Saturdays in the parlors of the church.

We are studying about the Indians. We have an Indian boy at Hampton, Va., which we have sent to school for one year and now we are trying to raise money enough to send him to school another year.

About three weeks ago we had a candy table at a ladies' supper and made fifteen dollars clear profit.

Next Friday we are going to have a fair to raise money for our Indian boy, and we hope to raise fifty or seventy-five dollars.

We are going to have our barrels broken. Each boy has a barrel, and last year we had twenty dollars altogether.

Also we will have an ice-cream and cake table, a candy table, an honorary membership table, and a fair table comprising things made by some of the boys that have formed a band of carpenters. They hired a carpenter and worked Saturday afternoons. And lastly we are going to start a Mission paper.

MALONE, N. Y.

I AM most happy to be able to report that we have a very flourishing Lend a Hand society in Malone. It consists of thirty boys and girls from the Sunday-school of the First Congregational Church, some of whom have been banded together for two or three years past as a mission circle.

Two months ago we adopted the Harry Wadsworth mottoes and the name, Lend a Hand. None of the children are more than thirteen years old, but they have been very much impressed with the ideas in "Ten Times One" and "In His Name" and seem to have the genuine lend a hand spirit.

Our especial work at present is the support of a little Indian girl in one of the Dakota mission schools. For this we have pledged fifty dollars. Aside from this the children have assisted in many ways the poor of our own town, and I feel sure have lent a hand in many ways that we shall never know perhaps.

We have had one or two ideas for raising money for our little Indian; one of which I thought might be helpful to some other society. It was simply the compilation of a candy receipt book. We should be very glad to furnish any society with our compilation at a very small advance on the cost price. Or we should be very happy to have our idea used or improved upon, if any one cared to do so. Another thing we have done, which I do not know of having been done before, was giving up our extra day, the 29th of February, to especial lend a hand work. The idea was suggested by the story

"Neither Scrip nor Purse," and the children were very much interested in it. As the 29th has passed, the last day of the year might be chosen.

—
NEWTON, MASS.

THE boys in my class have organized a little society, calling themselves "King's Sons," and plan to meet regularly each week.

But they are rather at a loss to know what to do, and I have been trying to plan some work for them.

They are going to raise flowers for our Flower Mission, but they need something more than that to employ their time.

We call the attention of boys' clubs in particular, to suggestions for work given in this number.

—
KING'S DAUGHTERS.

PERHAPS the most wonderful thing about the society is its effect upon children. In schools and homes, factories, shops, at service, or in the streets the little Daughters of the King cherish with proud affection the symbol of their order, and express their comprehension of its purport and signification in various acts of loyalty, unselfishness and devotion. There are Truthful Tens and Generous Tens, Quiet Tens and Studious Tens, Helpful Tens and Patient Tens, Busy Tens and Watchful Tens, Hearts-ease Tens, and one Happy Ten. A Philadelphia lady describes the latter as originated by a poor woman who scrubs for her daily bread. Hearing a querulous little girl complaining one day over some trifling grievance, she said: "Katie, bring me next Saturday nine little girls as unhappy as you." On Saturday they came, shy and silent, were enrolled as Daughters of the King, and received each her cross and ribbon. When they met again the following week they were as happy and bright as little sunbeams.

"Well, Katie," was asked, "what have you done since you began to wear the cross?"

"I have borrowed Maggie."

"And who is Maggie?"

"She is Mrs. Smith's baby. She cries when her mother waits on the boarders. I thought I would give Mrs. Smith a little peace. So every day when meal time comes I go over and borrow Maggie."

A tiny little maid in Chicago reported dolefully at the weekly meeting of her circle: "Oh! I have not done enough," and then she wrote: "Monday—Set the table and minded the baby. Tuesday—Onset the table and minded the baby. Wednesday—Onset the table, minded the baby and made the bed," and so on through the week she had set and "onset" the table and "minded the baby," and had not done enough.

KNIGHTS EXCELSIOR, CHICAGO, ILL.

THE suggestion that the boys wear badges is a good one and has already been one of the features of the society. They are presented to members at the second meeting after enrollment and accompanied by a short formula, the object of which is to teach the true meaning of knighthood: "to love our country, to honor women, to reverence the church of God, and always endeavor to be brave and pure and right."

Our organization consists of the "Council of King's Sons," five young men who have the work in charge and who direct everything. One of these is secretary, one librarian and one treasurer. Then there are five officers of the society proper: Chief Sir Knight, Chief Master Knight, Sir Warden, Deputy Warden and Chaplin, elected by the boys from their own number. Then there are five sentinels appointed by the "Council" to "look out" for absent and new members, and to "look out" for ways to "lend a hand" to the rest.

The members consist of Master Knights

from twelve to fifteen years of age and Sir Knights from fifteen to eighteen years old.

We organized January 21st with eleven boys, and our present membership is sixty, about one-half of whom are from poor homes where are many intemperate parents.

This week the boys give a reception to their parents and friends. The programme will be patriotic: essays on Washington and Lincoln by two bright boys; another will tell Dr. Hale's story of "A Man without a Country;" a flag will be presented to the society by some friends; the pastor will tell the boys what he saw in Europe on a recent visit there; there will be some music and recitations and then we shall make friends with the parents in an informal Social.

FITCHBURG, MASS.

We have taken for the name of our club, the Lend a Hand.

We hold our meetings every two weeks but have not fairly started as yet.

We are at present clothing two children, a girl and a boy, and later on I will report to you more fully.

We have about thirty members now.

HAMPTON, VA.

OUR Lend a Hand Club has not been quite as vigorous this year from several causes, some of them perhaps unavoidable, at least so far as our meetings are concerned. There have been so many entertainments, temperance meetings, etc., for the whole school, colored as well as Indian, that our club gatherings have been somewhat interfered with.

There is only one leisure evening in the week, so everything has to come Saturdays. However, if we do not send a very business-like report this time, perhaps a letter from one of the Indian boys or girls will answer as well.

I am very glad to make a suggestion as to work for some of the willing-heart-

ed clubs. Most of the colored and some of the Indian students teach after they leave Hampton. Any teacher of geography, history or language lessons for children knows what immense help pictures can give. Now, if some of our young friends would cut out pictures from illustrated papers and magazines and mount them on pasteboard and send them down for our pupils to use, they would do a good deed.

Suppose a young Indian teacher has a little school in Dakota or Nebraska of children who have never seen a great city, and she wants to tell them about New York or Chicago, and she can go to her store of pictures and find ten or a dozen (if they are small several could be put on one card), how real and graphic her lesson would be as the dusky little pupils pass them around and listen to her explanations.

Clothing is gladly received here, and at Christmas time particularly scrap-books are very nice to send out west. If any club would like some particular Indian to sew for, I can easily send name and measurement.

DORCHESTER, MASS.

THE club called the "Willing Workers" is now with the addition of six more girls, making ten in all, the club called the "King's Daughters."

This club was formed in December, 1887, simply by my giving to each girl in my class the tiny J. H. N. cross strung on a bit of ribbon and reading to them the article which came out in the *Christian Register* which told something of the work of the Daughters of the King.

The girls in our club are all about twelve years of age, bright and interesting and anxious to lend a hand. In Easter week, they held a sale lasting one afternoon and evening.

It was held on Dr. Hale's birthday. They had a table of fancy articles and also one of home-made candies. A broth-

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er of one of the girls established himself in a corner of the room as an agent of the American Express Co., and sold express packages at ten cents each, making nearly sixteen dollars, as the packages had all been contributed by his friends. There was also ice-cream and cake for sale.

In the evening an admission fee of fifteen cents was charged, and an entertainment was given by the girls themselves with a little assistance from others. It consisted of Haydn's Children's Symphony and Mother Goose tableaux.

We cleared \$105, \$100 of which will go to Mr. Baldwin for "Country Week."

Every one in the society seemed interested, and many strangers came, too, to lend a hand.

ATLANTA, GA.

WE have been trying to organize with more system our "Ten Times One" societies.

We are so on the *outside* of society that whatever we do, is approached by us with special effort and with the full understanding that we work alone. Georgia recognizes no duty to the colored element as far as "lending a hand" is concerned.

I first determined to try and organize a Social Purity Society among the young men of my Sunday-school class. There are twenty of them, fine boys, some of them white as any Boston boys, some in our school, and some members of the university. Others are learning trades, but there are none that have had the training of pure, noble homes, so I wished to plant the seeds I might be able to in connection with my Sunday-school work.

For nearly two years we have had meetings frequently in my school room, and my effort has been to show them that ladies could associate with them and they be made happy by pure conversation and gentlemanly deportment. We would

have music and song and sometimes refreshments of a simple kind.

I obtained some twenty copies of the Silver-cross pledge and now my boys are fully organized, one of their own number chosen president, and they have chosen as their name "Guards of Honor," have decided to fine any one who indulges in any coarse or unbecoming conversation, and they have a small monthly tax, which will go to establish a reading-room and by and by a library. They are very fond of music and think that they will give an entertainment occasionally of a musical character to assist them to a book fund.

Of course, these boys with colored blood do not have access to the Young Men's Christian Association rooms nor to the Public Library, and it will be a grand thing for them to work for such an end and at the same time bring in others to the organization. I should like to know in what way it might be separated into "tens" and do more outside work.

The King's Daughters are quite an organization. We now number sixty and they enter into the spirit of mission visiting and doing good. Last year some of them carried flowers to the hospitals and the poor are all around us and the sick to whom they minister. If we can this year get the foundations of these societies well laid, we shall be able in the autumn to begin our real work.

PEOPLE who are forming clubs or are interested in the Ten Times One work are requested to address all letters of inquiry to Mrs. Bernard Whitman, Lawrence avenue, Dorchester, Mass.

Mrs. Whitman is the central secretary of the clubs and will gladly give information or help in forming them. It is also especially desirable that all clubs based on the Wadsworth mottoes which have not sent in their names should do so, in order that the list of clubs may be as complete as possible.

Intelligence.

THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF FALL RIVER.

Organized January 28th, 1888.

THE following is the object of the organization :

I. NAME.

The name of this society shall be "The Associated Charities of Fall River."

II. OBJECTS.

The objects of this society are :

To secure the concurrent and harmonious action of the different charities of Fall River, in order,

To raise the needy above the need of relief, prevent begging and imposition, and diminish pauperism :

To encourage thrift, self-dependence and industry through friendly intercourse, advice and sympathy, and thereby help the poor to help themselves rather than to help them by alms.

To accomplish these objects it is designed,

1. To provide that the case of every applicant for relief shall be thoroughly investigated.

2. To place the results of such investigation at the disposal of the Overseers of the Poor, of charitable societies and agencies, and of private persons of benevolence.

3. To obtain employment, if possible, and if not, to obtain, as far as necessary, suitable assistance for every deserving applicant, from public authorities, charitable agencies, or from benevolent individuals.

4. To make all relief, either by alms

or charitable work, conditional upon good conduct and progress : *in order that, wherever possible, the needy may GRADUATE from the rolls of relief, and their children be prevented from falling into need.*

IV. OFFICERS.

The officers of this society shall be : a President, two Vice Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected by the Council at its annual meeting, and who shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are appointed.

These officers shall be the officers of the General Council and of the Executive Committee thereof. Any vacancies in the offices shall be filled by the General Council.

V. GENERAL COUNCIL.

The general management of the affairs of the society shall be vested in a General Council, which shall consist of three delegates, including the chairman and secretary, from each district conference ; of three delegates, including the chairman and secretary, from each charitable association connected with this society ; and of such persons not exceeding fifty in number, as may be elected by the General Council ; of the Mayor, the State Superintendent of Indoor Poor, the State Superintendent of Outdoor Poor, three Overseers of the Poor, a Trustee of the Fall River Hospital, the City Marshal, the

City Physician, and of all persons who are *ex-officio* members of the Executive Committee.

The connection of any charitable association with this society shall be determined by such association and by the General Council.

VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

There shall be an Executive Committee of the General Council, which shall consist of the officers of the society and of seven members of the General Council, whom the Council shall elect at its first

meeting after the annual meeting. The chairman of the Board of Overseers of the Poor, the President of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the President of the Fall River Fruit and Flower Mission, and the representatives of such other charitable bodies as the General Council shall direct, shall be *ex-officio* members of the Executive Committee.

This Committee shall meet monthly and whenever called by the president or any two members thereof. Said Committee shall exercise all powers of the General Council, unless the Council shall otherwise direct.

PROFIT-SHARING.

An interesting experiment in profit-sharing was tried during the past year by the Rice & Griffin Mfg. Co., of Worcester, Massachusetts.

On January 1, 1887, the firm issued a circular to their employees, promising to pay to those in their employ six months or more during the year, "in addition to regular wages, one-half of any net earnings there may be on the year's business after reserving six per cent interest on value of the capital invested." Each employee was to share this excess of profit in proportion to the amount of his wages for the year.

Mr. Robert S. Griffin, the superintendent, had frequently urged upon his firm the adoption of such a plan, but the directors had little confidence in its success and reluctantly agreed to a year's trial. Mr. Griffin was also obliged, at times, after the arrangement was entered upon

to overcome the doubts and distrust of the employees.

The increase in the year's profits, however, was highly satisfactory. In describing the experiment, Mr. Griffin recently said, "The effect upon the workmen was very favorable, tending to economy in the use of material and personal interest which resulted in an increase of fully 100 per cent in the year's earnings, as compared with the average of three preceding years."

Mr. Griffin regards profit-sharing as in every sense practicable and adds, "As a business policy it ought to command itself to the most selfish employees." The firm have adopted the profit-sharing scheme for another year, dividing the excess of profit over six per cent proportionately between capital and the total yearly pay-roll.

BURLINGTON, VT.

THE Mary Fletcher Hospital has just opened a new ward for women. Other buildings have also recently been added to the hospital.

THE PEOPLE'S ENTERTAINMENT SOCIETY.

THE "People's Entertainment Society of Boston," to which reference was made in the July, 1887, number of *LEND A HAND*, has enlarged its work. It is composed of a few ladies and gentlemen whose object has been to supply good entertainments at moderate prices to those people in the poorer portions of the city who are unable to enjoy the more expensive attractions offered to them. A little more than a year ago a small house in North Margin street was procured, where for several months in the winter and spring weekly entertainments were given for the moderate price of five cents, each ticket entitling the holder to a glass of milk, tea or coffee; cake and sandwiches being given at a small additional cost. In addition to these five-cent entertainments, ten-cent concerts were given once a month in larger halls, the entertainment being of a more elaborate character without the refreshments. The success of these entertainments last year encouraged the society

to extend its work, and this year five-cent entertainments have been given on Thursday evenings at Cockerell Hall, in Hanover street, and on Tuesday evenings at Arlington Hall, on the corner of Dover and Washington streets. The society hopes to enlarge its field of usefulness and to establish regular entertainments in South Boston and in the Roxbury district, where factory operatives and other laborers have so little opportunity to break the monotony of their lives.

Eventually it is hoped to make the entertainments self-supporting, but at present the deficits are supplied by subscribers interested in the scheme. There seems to be no reason why the success of similar schemes in East London should not be attained in our city, and the society is now grappling with the innumerable difficulties which always beset such schemes in the beginning, with the hope of putting itself upon a substantial basis at no very distant date.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND CONVENTION OF CHRISTIAN WORKERS.

IN September last the second convention of Christian Workers was held in New York City. During the week many valuable papers on charity and reform were read; one at least of which we have already printed in full in *LEND A HAND*.

The proceedings of the convention have just been issued in book form, giving the reports and papers complete and adding the exceedingly interesting discussions which immediately followed each one.

Men and women of more than ordinary talent and fitness for their work took part

in these meetings and the brightness, earnestness and clear manner in which many of the topics were presented cannot fail to impress the reader.

The writer knows personally of great good that has been rendered in the forming of needed societies by papers which were read and discussed at this convention.

The Secretary of the Committee, Rev. John C. Collins, English Hall, New Haven, Connecticut, will supply the "Proceedings" at the modest price of sixty cents per copy or two copies for one dollar.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

THE "Council of Women" met at Washington on the 24th of March, according to the programme to which we have already referred, and its sessions lasted till the evening of Monday, the 2d of April. Not only the delegates present, but a very large attendance of persons not formal delegates, took great satisfaction

in the meetings, which followed with business closeness on the programme previously circulated. We are able in this number to publish only a short account of the meeting, but we hope in successive numbers of *LEND A HAND* to print several of the important papers which were read in the Council.

SWEATERS.

THE House of Lords has taken action, under the lead of Lord Dunraven, in the matter presented so vividly in Mr. Besant's novel, "The Children of Gibeon."

The following is a sketch of their debate and action :

Lord Dunraven, in calling attention to the report to the Board of Trade on the sweating system in the East-end of London by the labor correspondent of the Board, read numerous extracts from the report to prove the severity of the work done by the poor people of both sexes, who are obliged to endure a wretched subsistence by toiling undersweaters. He showed that not only is their remuneration on a scale that scarcely affords them the means of bare existence, but that the number of hours worked by them is dangerously excessive, and that in very many cases they perform their task in miserable rooms, which they are obliged to over-crowd, and in which the most ordinary sanitary laws are entirely disregarded. He expressed his opinion that no slaves are in so unhappy a condition materially as those free citizens of a free country. He contended that there was no force in the assertion that if Parliament interfered with this system trade would be driven

out of the country, and he reminded their lordships that the same sort of argument had been used against many Acts now beneficially enforced for the regulation of labor in factories and workshops. He advocated inquiry into the question by a Commission or a Committee empowered to examine witnesses on oath, and he concluded by moving for a Select Committee.

Lord Sandhurst, in seconding the motion, suggested that the scope of the inquiry should be extended so as to include other kinds of work, such as match-box making.

Lord Aberdeen thought it would be better not to extend the inquiry beyond the sweating system.

Lord Aberdare referred to an inquiry held over forty years ago by means of which the evils referred to by Lord Dunraven were brought under the notice of the public, but he remarked that as the population had much increased since then no doubt those evils had increased.

The Archbishop of Canterbury advocated inquiry, and expressed his opinion that we ought not to flatter ourselves that the existing Acts and system of inspection were sufficient to effect all that legislation could accomplish.

Lord Onslow stated that nineteen-twentieths of the persons who did tailoring under sweaters in the East-end were German and Polish Jews and Jewesses, and the habits of these persons, even in their own countries, were very different from those of the English working classes. They threw obstacles in the way of workshop inspectors. The question was one of much difficulty, and, though the Home

Office and the Board of Trade had already made close inquiries into it, the government thought that inquiry by a Select Committee, with power of requiring the attendance of both sweaters and those who worked for them, might lead to recommendations which would commend themselves to the attention of the Executive and the country.

The motion was agreed to.

DURING the past three years four legislative measures have passed the Massachusetts legislature through the efforts of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union: the Scientific Temperance Instruction law, a bill prohibiting the sale or gift of tobacco to minors under sixteen years of age, the Police Matron bill, largely championed by the W. C. T. U., and the "Age of Consent" raised from ten to thirteen years, while a resolve submitting the Constitutional Prohibitory Amendment to the people, which is obliged to pass two legislatures, has passed this year, which is due in great measure to the influence of this organization.

Amendments to two of these bills have been acted upon by the present legislature as well as the bill granting women qualified to vote for school committee the right to vote on the license question, which passed the House by a good majority, but was killed in the Senate by one vote. Great interest was manifested in this subject by people and press, but was opposed bitterly by the liquor constituency. Crowded hearings were held before a joint committee of the Senate and House by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and strong arguments and telling speeches made in its behalf. There was but one opponent who appeared, a young lawyer, who came as he claimed in the interest of a few who represented a large

majority, but refused to give the name of a single remonstrant. Rev. Joseph Cook, always and everywhere the friend and advocate of righteous legislation, spoke strong words in support of the bill and invited Miss Frances E. Willard, President of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, to speak on the subject at the 200th anniversary of the Boston Monday lecturship. Through the kindness of the Lecture Bureau tickets for reserved seats were sent to every member of the Senate and House.

A basket of flowers tied with the white ribbon was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Cook in behalf of the Massachusetts and Boston W. C. T. U. Telegrams received from Kansas, Iowa, Washington Territory and other states, showing the good result attending the vote of women on the question of granting licenses, were read by Miss Willard, who also answered conclusively the arguments raised by the opponents of the bill, fortifying each with facts coming under her personal observation. Thirteen thousand names were signed to the petition asking for this measure, while a petition was sent also to the Senate, which was signed in 1880 by Mrs. Dr. A. J. Gordon and 8,753 other names from Suffolk county and presented to the liquor committee of that legislature, asking for the same right, but had been returned with "leave to withdraw."

A HOSPITAL FOR FITCHBURG, MASS.

[Provided for by the will of the late Gardner S. Burbank.]

FITCHBURG, MASS., Feb. 14.

The late Gardner S. Burbank in his will made generous provision for the establishment of a hospital in Fitchburg. After providing for certain bequests, the residue of his estate is placed in the hands of trustees, and, after paying some annuities, the income is given to Mrs. Burbank during her life. After her decease the property goes to found and maintain a hospital for care of the sick. Not desiring to embarrass the gift with provisions and restrictions, he indicates in general two purposes which he desired to have executed. First, he suggests that at least \$100,000 be devoted to the purchase of necessary land and the erection of

a substantial and commodious hospital building. He also requests that those who are able to pay for services rendered in the hospital be subjected to such reasonable charges as are usual in similar charitable institutions, but those who are in poverty and sickness shall ever be received and cared for kindly and tenderly, "without money and without price," and without regard to color or nationality. In closing, he states that provision for the foundation of the hospital is made "by request of my wife, whose good judgment has so greatly aided me in all my affairs and purposes of my life." The estate is mostly personal property and the amount is not yet known.

RAMABAI ASSOCIATION.

SINCE the last report in the April **LEND A HAND** of the Ramabai Association, the work has been going on steadily and surely with increased interest on all sides.

Ramabai spent several days in Washington during the time of the International Council of Women. She there presented her cause with marked success. A circle was at once formed and influential people became members and expressed themselves eager to further her work.

Early in April, Ramabai passed ten days in Boston. But, though needing complete rest, she gave herself up to the many demands which taxed her time and strength. At the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association, she was able to be present and explained clearly her views of the details of the

school. As has been stated one teacher has already been engaged and other applications have been made. The difficulties in the way of finding teachers whose qualifications are necessarily so many and varied can hardly be understood without careful investigation, and the work of the committee in this department is most conscientious. No outside influence is allowed to creep in and a thorough, searching discussion of each subject precedes a decision.

In our last report we stated there were twenty-three circles. There are now thirty-eight circles in existence and increased interest manifested in many other cities and towns of the United States.

Competent judges, at the outset, estimated that at least \$25,000.00 would be

necessary for the establishment of the school. Of this sum but \$7,000.00 has so far been subscribed and the committee hope that all friends of this movement will use their best endeavors to secure the full amount. Because the sum total is large, it does not follow that individual contributions must be large. Any sum may be sent to the treasurer, but it simplifies matters if the donors will carefully mark the object for which the gift is designed: whether the general fund, building fund, scholarship or annual subscription for current expenses. There is no fear but the circles and Association will be able to meet the current expenses. But these expenses should not be incurred until the general fund is much larger than at present.

Sir William and Lady Wedderburn, as well as other influential English people, have written most cordially to Ramabai, inviting her to England before she returns, and should she do so an effort will be made for assistance there. At present it is doubtful if she returns to India by the way of England as there seems to be even a more favorable outlook for help in California and our other western states.

All letters of inquiry with regard to forming circles, etc., may be addressed to the secretary, Miss A. P. Granger, Canandaigua, N. Y. Gifts and subscriptions may be sent to the treasurer, Mr. T. Jefferson Coolidge, Jr., Bay State Trust Co., 87 Boylston street, Boston, Mass.

THE PEABODY DONATION FUND.

THE trustees of the Peabody Donation Fund have submitted to the public their twenty-third annual report, for the year 1887. The net gain of the year from rents and interest has been £24,902 13s. 6d., as shown by the annexed accounts. The sum given and bequeathed by Mr. Peabody was, in 1862, £150,000; in 1866, £100,000; in 1868, £100,000; and in 1873, £150,000, making a total of £500,000, to which has been added money received for rent and interest, £435,570 16s. 7d., making the total fund on the 31st December last £935,570 16s. 7d. Of the £390,000 borrowed of the Public Works Loan Commissioners and others, mentioned in previous reports, the trustees have paid off £108,666 13s. 4d., leaving a balance unpaid of £281,333 6s. 8d. In addition to this the Bank of England has advanced the sum of £7,000, so that the total indebtedness of the trustees at the end of the year was £288,333 6s. 8d. Within the past year the trustees

have expended on land and buildings £2,757 14s., making the total expenditure to the end of the year £1,219,219 16s. 7d. Three blocks of building, to contain 136 rooms, are now in course of erection on the Pimlico estate. These it is hoped will be ready for occupation next autumn. Up to the end of the past year the trustees have provided for the artisan and laboring poor of London 11,151 rooms, besides bath rooms, laundries and wash-houses, occupied by 20,279 persons. These rooms comprise 5,014 separate dwellings—say, 74 of four rooms, 1,782 of three rooms, 2,351 of two rooms, and 807 of one room. The birth rate for the year reached 41.78 per 1,000, which is 10.10 per 1,000 above that of all London for the same period. The death rate, including the deaths of those inhabitants of the buildings who were removed to hospitals, was 18.72 per 1,000, which is 0.85 per 1,000 below the average of London.

EMIGRATION TO BRITISH COLONIES.

IT is estimated that nearly one-third of the vast population of London consists of those who have from time to time migrated to the great Metropolis from other parts of the United Kingdom. The great majority of this constant influx consists of farm-laborers, carpenters, masons, brick-layers, ironworkers, general laborers, etc., etc. These have all made their way to London under the impression that if they do not find employment in their own particular spheres they must at least find work of some kind or other in so large a city, something, perhaps, more remunerative than the very small pittance they have been earning in their own village homes. The poor men soon find, that there is an overplus of unemployed laborers of all kinds in London, and in a comparatively short period nearly half of these immigrants into the Metropolis find themselves gradually drifting down into the ranks of the really destitute. There is no question but all or nearly all these poor fellows are abundantly willing to work at anything or everything if they had but the chance. The Rev. Andrew Mearns lately made an experiment in that direction, the result of which as given in his report on the subject is thus stated: "Out of about 500 men who expressed themselves willing to work for a shilling a day, a selection was made, and the men thus selected were sent into Lincolnshire to work on the peat moors at the small wages for which they had volunteered their services. The result exceeded the most sanguine expectations, and subsequently further selections were made from these willing workers, and they were assisted to Canada, where fields of labor of a more productive character were opened to them." Another case in point arose on the closing of some large jute works at Barking

in Surrey. A great many of the men who were thrown out of employment, being recommended to the Self-Help Emigration Society by the Rev. Thomas Davies, were immediately taken care of by the Committee and were soon provided with new homes and new work in Canada. Great Britain has just begun to realize the fact that the United States have been for the last half century or more absorbing the surplus blood and muscle of her towns and villages to the evident loss of her own colonies. She begins to see that every English, Irish or Scotch emigrant to the United States is a loss to her great Empire, simply because each one of these emigrants is soon merged into a citizen of the United States. The business therefore of the Self-Help Emigration Society is to see to it that in future, so far as possible, those who leave the shores of Great Britain or Ireland shall not be a similar loss to the British Empire, but simply be as if they had removed to some neighboring town. The principle of the Society is, as its name implies, to help those who will also help themselves. There has been altogether too much crying to government for emigration. This society deplores this and believes most truly that by appealing to self-help it will foster enterprise, courage, and capacity. The society sends out only such as are apparently likely to succeed in the new surroundings among which they will be placed.

Now that the Federation of the vast colonies of the British Empire is all but an established fact, it begins to dawn on the minds of Englishmen that one of the chief advantages of the great inheritance they possess in their North Western and Australian Colonies is the possibility of relieving their surplus population at home without handing over their spare blood

and muscle to Uncle Sam. The Third Annual Report of this society is just issued and is quite an interesting document, holding out as it does such tempting prospects to the large surplus population of these crowded British Islands. The committee state that they are prepared to find, for suitable candidates, situations in Canada alone for a large number of women; also to ensure constant work for a thousand emigrants in all during the coming spring and summer.

In 1885, the first year of the operations of the society, 150 emigrants were sent out at a cost of £850.

The next year, 1886, the number of emigrants was 360 at a cost of £1,447.

In 1887, the year to which this report refers, the number of emigrants was 545 at a cost of £2,731. It is not a little gratifying to those of us who believe in the principle of Self-Help, that of this sum of £2,731 not less than £1,596 was contributed by the emigrants themselves or by their friends. The report states that there are forty honorary agents distributed throughout British North America, from Quebec to Vancouver, and each emigrant on his or her arrival in Canada is placed at once under the immediate direction of one or other of these agents. It is to be hoped that the work done by this society may at least tend to solve the great pressing social problem of the day.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE HOSPITAL.

At the National Womans' Christian Temperance Union Convention held in Detroit, October, 1883, Dr. Mary Weeks Burnett, who has been for some years the Superintendent of the Department of Heddity, was present.

Her heart was terribly burdened as she thought of the helplessness of women in the hands of physicians who had not been taught the danger of prescribing alcohol as a medicine.

Her prayer was, "Heavenly Father, teach us how we may save our children from such doctors." The answer came, "Build a Temperance Hospital where no alcohol shall ever be administered, and a college where the sons and daughters who shall study to be physicians may be readily taught the evil of alcohol in medicine."

The answer came to her heart in words; today, all the world may see the answer being carried out practically to the blessing both to soul and body of whoever enters its walls.

This National Temperance Hospital

was organized under a charter, on the 27th of March, 1884, and after two years of earnest work and planning it was opened for patients March 16, 1886, at 3411 Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago.

The charter includes a medical college for men and women with men and women professors; a hospital, training school for nurses and such dispensaries as may be desirable to establish, all of which except the college are in active operation today. The staff of physicians, both visiting and consulting, is selected from the best Allopathic and Homeopathic doctors in the city and patients coming to the Hospital can select the method of treatment which they prefer. The students of the college may graduate from either school as they may choose. The Hospital contains thirty beds. Fourteen are for paying patients, and sixteen are beds which it is hoped will be endowed so they can be free. The minimum cost of each bed to the Institution is \$350 per year, which sum covers board and nursing, and any one paying this sum is entitled

to fill the bed for a year, or authorize the hospital to keep it filled with patients.

The bed will be known in the Institution and reports by the name of the donor. It has been the privilege of the Y's of the U. S. to furnish such a room and bed that medical treatment may come to some young women who perhaps could not have it otherwise.

The Hospital is healthfully located. It has a beautiful private park on one side of it, the Chicago University opposite, and Lake Michigan and the Douglass Monument in full view from the hall windows. This building has been leased for three years. At the end of that time it is sincerely hoped that the organization will have a building of its own to move into.

Both sexes and all classes of disease, except contagious, are taken, and the principle which underlies the work is, "The successful treatment of disease without alcohol." For the maintenance of the work there are four funds.

1st. The building fund, which a benevolent and wealthy gentleman of Michigan heads with a promise of \$50,000 in three years.

2d. A Providence fund which will assist those in the college or hospital who can pay but little and whose self-respect demands that they pay what they can.

3d. A general expense fund to pay the current expenses.

4th. The college and hospital endowment fund to secure for the college professorships the best talent of the country and for the hospital a large number of free beds.

Miss Frances E. Willard, the President of the National W. C. T. U., is chairman of the Advisory Board which is composed of some of the foremost men and women in America.

The medical treatment at the hospital has been crowned with success, many patients having been greatly helped.

This work commends itself to every earnest, conscientious man and woman. It is the beginning of a mighty work, therefore it needs all the fostering care and encouragement which is in the power of every one to bestow, both earnest prayers and substantial contributions of every kind.

Can we afford to be left out in aiding such a cause?

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HINDOO CHILD MARRIAGES.

A CASE came before the High Court of Bombay on the 18th of January last, showing the prevalence of the custom of infant marriage among the natives of India. Dengee Poonja, the father of the child Premabai, was a Brahman mendicant. When the suit came on for hearing, he admitted the child was only seven years old. He had agreed with a member of his caste, Juggonath Derojee by name, to give his daughter in marriage to Juggonath, but failed to carry out his agreement at due date. Juggonath, therefore, brought a suit against the father in

the High Court asking for specific performance of this contract to give a daughter in marriage, and for 10,000 rupees damages in case of failure to do so. Juggonath further complained that he had been put to great ridicule and annoyance in his caste by the defendant's conduct, and said he that would have great difficulty in finding another wife. When the parties came into court they presented a consent decree under which the daughter was to be given at once in marriage, and the consent was duly signed by both parties. But Mr. Justice Scott, who heard the

case, said, that as the person of a minor was in question, the court was bound to protect her interests, and to inquire whether the proposed consent decree was one which ought properly to be pronounced against her. He could not interfere with the marriage law of India, which placed no limit on the marriageable age. But both judicial precedents and legislation declared the court unable to enforce specific performance of an agreement to mar-

ry. The judge, therefore, refused to sanction the proposed consent decree, as against law and the true interests of the minor, and told the counsel for the plaintiff that the suit, as at present framed, was defective, inasmuch as it asked for enforcement of what the court could not legally enforce. He advised the father to consult some competent person before he took any further step, and the parties then left the court.

HOME FOR LOST AND STARVING DOGS.

At the annual meeting of the members of the "Temporary Home for Lost and Starving Dogs" in London, the Committee report that, during the last year, 12,881 dogs were brought into the Society's kennels. Twelve thousand five hundred and sixty-eight were brought by the metropolitan police, 79 by the city police, and 233 by private persons; the remaining dogs strayed of their own accord into the Home. Of the 233 brought in by private individuals 190 were delivered to be mercifully destroyed in the lethal chamber. Of the remainder, 3,118 were provided with new homes, of which 1,529 were sold, and 1,589 were restored to their owners.

The committee believe that the work of the past year cannot but be highly satisfactory to the members of the society and the public at large. The fame of the lethal chamber has spread far and wide. It continues to perform its humane work with the utmost precision and satisfaction. They state that applications for information concerning its structure have been received not only from several English provincial municipal corporations but also from many foreign towns and cities.

It is satisfactory to the committee to be able to state, that as regards the inmates of the Home, the decrease of rabies has amounted almost to the extinction of that terrible scourge. Of the 12,881 dogs brought into the home the past year, only two were affected by rabies, both of these being female retrievers. Notwithstanding the public benefit derived in taking off the streets of London nearly 13,000 dogs, the pecuniary support rendered the society by the Metropolitan public is far too small, and the chairman urged the necessity of larger donations and increased subscriptions.

When it is remembered what atrocious cruelties are practised on these poor animals at the establishments of private dog fanciers in London and other large cities on both sides the Atlantic, it is some satisfaction to know that there are societies whose care it is that the meanest mongrel cur that wanders lost and starving in the streets of the great Metropolis is watched over tenderly and if of no value to any one, or whose life has become a burden to itself, will be conveyed to that quiet lethal chamber where it shall sleep its last sleep in peace.

NEW BOOKS.

AMONG recent publications we find the following books of interest to our readers:

HYGIENE OF THE HOME. Susan Burr Barnes. Chicago Woman's Temperance Publication Association.

THE NEW EDUCATION; moral, industrial, hygienic, intellectual. Joseph Rodes Buchanan. Boston, the author.

THREE PHASES OF CO-OPERATION IN THE WEST. Amos Griswold Warner. Baltimore, American Economic Association.

THE LIFE OF ANANDABAI JOSHEE: a kinswoman of the Pundita Ramabai. Caroline W. H. Dall. Boston, Roberts Brothers.

NOTES ON THE LITERATURE OF CHARITIES. Herbert Baxter Adams. Baltimore, N. Murray.

A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON FRIENDLY SOCIETIES FOR SICKNESS-PAY, LIFE-ASSURANCE AND PENSIONS. With sickness valuation tables, also a collection of the decisions of the courts at law, on matters relating to these societies. Arthur Scratchley. London, R. Banks and

Sons.

GIRARD'S WILL AND GIRARD COLLEGE THEOLOGY. Richard Brodhead Westbrook. Philadelphia, the author.

COMMON SCHOOL LAW. C. W. Bardeen. Bardeen.

THE HISTORY OF PROTECTIVE TARIFF LAWS. Hon. R. W. Thompson. Peale.

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS OF HISTORY AND POLITICS. A. D. White. Johns Hopkins University.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION. G. G. Ramsay, in Blackwood's, March, 1888.

HIGHER EDUCATION OF WOMEN, in Library Magazine, April, 1888.

CALISTHENICS FOR CHILDREN. A. Beale. Excelsior Publishing House.

THE LAND OF THE NIHILISTS: RUSSIA. W. E. Curtis. New York and Chicago, Belford, Clark & Co.

THE LONDON OF TO-DAY. Charles E. Pascoe. Boston, Roberts Brothers.

CIVILIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES. M. Arnold. Boston, Cupples & Hurd.

TRANSLATION OF THE DIALOGUES OF PLATO. H. Cary. New York, Scribner & Welford.

CALIFORNIA AND ENGLISH LADY-HELPS.

MISS EMILY FAITHFUL has been favored with the following reply from Sir P. W. Currie, K. C. B., in answer to her letter respecting the statement which recently appeared in the newspapers from Mr. Mortimer as to the destitute condition of the ladies sent by Mrs. Parker, of Warrington, to Los Angeles:—“Foreign Office, Feb. 27. Madam—I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acquaint you that a copy of your letter of the 21st,

relating to Mrs. Parker's complaint against Mr. Mortimer, formerly British vice-consul at Los Angeles, has been referred to Mr. Donohoe, Her Majesty's consul at San Francisco, for a report, the purport of which will be duly communicated to you. I am to add that Mr. Mortimer has recently resigned the post that he held in the consular service.—I am, Madam, your most obedient servant, P. W. Currie. Miss Emily Faithful, Manchester.”

REPORTS OF CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS.

BOSTON. *Home for Aged Couples.* Third Annual Report. *President*, Elizabeth Abbott Carleton, M. D.; *Secretary*, Mrs. L. B. Baldwin. The society establishes and supports a non-sectarian home for aged and needy couples. Expenses, \$6,948.99; balance on hand, \$2,171.17.

BOSTON. *Co-operative Building Co.* Seventeenth Annual Report. *President*, Martin Brimmer; *Secretary*, Sarah W. Whitman. The company holds and improves real estate as homes for working people at moderate cost.

BOSTON. *Particular Council of Society of St. Vincent de Paul.* Annual Report. *President*, Thomas F. King; *Secretary*, John J. Mundo. The society is a branch of a Roman Catholic institution which gives aid to poor people. Expenses, \$270.29; balance on hand, \$379.62.

BOSTON. *Ward XVI Day Nursery.* First Annual Report. *Treasurer*, H. C. Haven, M. D. The nursery is for the benefit of working-women, who take their children on their way to work, and call for them when the day's work is done. Current expenses, \$1,085.62; balance on hand, \$279.58.

BOSTON. *South End Industrial School.* Fifth Annual Report. *President*, Mrs. J. W. Andrews; *Clerk*, Miss Mary J. May. The school furnishes education in sewing, cooking, carpentry, printing and other industrial pursuits, to the poor of the southern wards of the city. Current expenses, \$2,169.91; balance on hand, \$728.54.

BOSTON. *Warren Street Chapel.* Fifty-second Annual Report. *Chairman*, William Endicott, Jr.; *Clerk*, Rev. Eber R. Butler. The object of the society is to provide religious, moral and intellectual instruction for children.

Current expenses, \$4,404.27; balance on hand, \$200.00.

BOSTON. *Home for Aged Men.* Twenty-seventh Annual Report. *President*, D. Waldo Salisbury; *Clerk*, David H. Coolidge. The object of the society is to provide a home and to otherwise assist respectable aged and indigent men. Expenses, \$19,165.97; balance on hand, \$1,804.95.

BOSTON. *Massachusetts Society for the University Education of Women.* Eleventh Annual Report. *President*, Miss Marion Talbot; *Secretary*, Miss Charlotte C. Barrell. The society strives to promote the higher education of women and to render financial aid to such students as are needy. Expenses, \$752.26; balance on hand, \$24.83.

PHILADELPHIA. *Visiting Nurse Society.* Second Annual Report. *President*, Mrs. Henry C. Lea; *Secretary*, Mrs. William F. Jenks. The purpose is to furnish visiting nurses to those otherwise unable to secure skilled attendance in time of illness, to teach cleanliness and proper care of the sick. Expenses, \$2,716.28; balance on hand, \$516.37.

PLAINFIELD. *Children's Home Association.* Eleventh Annual Report. *President*, Mrs. Horace Kimball; *Secretary*, Miss Lucy H. Everett. The object is "to give Christian help and comfort to poor, destitute and friendless children by giving them a home when necessary or helping such as have homes when their parents are unable to give them proper care." Expenses, \$1,934.45; balance on hand, \$2,340.37.

WEST ROXBURY. *Martin Luther Waisenhaus.* Annual Report. The home cares for destitute orphan children over

four years of age of any race or creed and offers a temporary home to half orphans who need it. Expenses, \$776.08; balance on hand, \$39.33.

BUFFALO, N. Y. *Charity Organization Society.* Tenth Annual Report. President, T. Guilford Smith; Secretary, Nathaniel S. Rosenan. The object of this society is to prevent pauperism, to assist the needy to care for themselves, and to give judiciously to the sick and helpless. Current expenses, \$16,661.04; balance on hand, \$155.00.

PROVIDENCE, R. I. *Union for Christian Work.* Nineteenth Annual Report. President, Wm. T. Crandell;

Secretary, Miss Alice R. Wolf. The society aims to furnish such occupation, amusement and surroundings as shall weaken the power of temptation and arouse the higher nature of all who come within its influence. Current expenses, \$372.86; balance on hand, \$127.01.

ST. LOUIS. *Training School for Nurses.* Fourth Annual Report. President, Mrs. W. H. Pulsifer; Secretary, Mrs. G. O. Carpenter. "The object and business of the society shall be the training and education of nurses for the sick and wounded." Current expenses, \$10,979.02; balance on hand, \$1,832.94.

AN organization just formed in Pittsburgh is called the "Foremen Association," and consists of foremen from every large industry in the city, from the iron mills to the paint shops. Its object is to secure a suitable reading-room, library, gymnasium, and especially a lecture-hall, "where new ideas, both theoretical and practical, may be

exchanged"; to secure places for skilled workmen in all trades; to inaugurate a system of visits to the principal shops and mills for the interchange of suggestions and comment, and for the general advancement of the interests of the foremen themselves, of the employers for whom they work, and the men whom they direct.

It is with great regret that we are obliged to say that we cannot undertake to return manuscripts. We have a very large staff of regular contributors for this journal. We solicit privately from all quarters, articles by specialists on the subjects which we treat. The number of papers we have from such sources is very much larger than our space permits us to use. We are therefore in no position to use the articles of volunteers. We should not pay for them if we did use them, and they merely add to the difficulties of compressing within sixty-four pages the valuable papers which would occupy three or four hundred.

We shall print this statement regularly on the cover of every number, not ungraciously, but with the wish to save trouble to those who are kind enough to remember us in the distribution of their favors.